

Drugs-linked BCCI is shut worldwide

Billions frozen as bank closes in fraud enquiry

DEPOSITS worth billions of pounds were frozen yesterday when the Bank of Credit and Commerce International, one of the biggest privately-owned financial companies in the world, was closed down after the discovery of widespread fraud.

The Bank of England, which led a global operation to suspend BCCI's activities, set up a special unit to co-ordinate action against the Luxembourg-based bank in 69 countries, and papers have been sent to the Serious Fraud Office.

Robin Leigh-Pemberton, the governor of the Bank of England, said he had moved after an accountant's report disclosed "widespread fraud at a very high level". Provisional liquidators were appointed by the High Court yesterday and they will keep all BCCI's deposits frozen until a full winding-up order is made.

About 120,000 Britons have deposits totalling £250 million in British branches of BCCI, many of whose customers were Asian businessmen. They will have to wait months to receive compensation and will be covered for only £15,000 of their savings.



Commercial banks around the world may lose billions on inter-bank trading in the collapse.

Bank of England had asked Price Waterhouse, BCCI's accountants, to complete a report on the bank's operations after reading its accounts for 1990. That report was delivered last week.

The fraud had been going on for some time and consisted of false loans and concealed treasury transactions, Mr Leigh-Pemberton said. "I think that this bank has been in difficulties. They have made mistakes in their lending and treasury. In order to cover this up you have to go in for false accounting which adds up to fraud," Mr Leigh-Pemberton added that he thought BCCI's British staff were unaware of the fraud.

At 1pm yesterday, the Bank of England, together with the Luxembourg monetary institute and the inspector of banks in the Cayman Islands, moved in to close BCCI's main subsidiaries. Bank regulations in America, Spain, Switzerland and France also froze the bank's assets. By yesterday afternoon, Mr Leigh-Pemberton said the vast majority of BCCI's £20 billion assets had been frozen.

The Bank of England did not, however, consult the Abu Dhabi government until after it had closed BCCI. The governor hoped, however, that the authorities in the biggest of the United Arab Emirates would help in the orderly run-down of the bank. Abu Dhabi may also be called on to make good some of the losses arising from the fraud.

The Bank of England's deposit protection fund will compensate deposits for three-quarters of the first £20,000 of their savings. The fund is likely to have to raise a levy on other British banks to pay the compensation since it is in deficit after the collapse of British & Commonwealth merchant bank last year.

Up to 100,000 holders of BCCI credit cards will not be able to use them. Visa International said that customers should not use their cards as they would be refused. Retailers were advised to ask for other cards. Holidaymakers trying to cash the bank's travellers' cheques are also affected.

Continued on page 24, col 8

Edberg falls to battling Stich

By JOHN GOODBODY

STEFAN Edberg, of Sweden, the defending champion and number one seed, was beaten yesterday by Michael Stich, of Germany, in a four-set semi-final at Wimbledon.

Stich, seeded six, won 4-6, 7-6, 6-7, 6-6 in a match lasting 188 minutes. Edberg, who has figured in every final in the last three years, never lost his own serve but broke that of the German just once. Three sets went to tie-breaks, in which the Swede made several uncharacteristic errors.

Edberg's defeat is the biggest shock of a tournament which has already seen the departure in previous rounds of Martina Navratilova and Ivan Lendl, who had been widely tipped to meet Boris Becker in the final.

Stich, aged 22, who has been a finalist in three earlier international tournaments this year, said afterwards that it was "frustrating for both sides when you are just serving well and nothing happens".

Edberg said that he believed had lost the match rather than Stich winning. "I just did not make him play the important points. I missed a lot of first services when I had some break points," he added.

In the other semi-final, Boris Becker, three times former champion, and the number two seed, beat Dave Wheaton, the unseeded American, 6-4, 7-6, 7-5, setting up an all-German final on Sunday.

On the second day of the third Test at Trent Bridge, the West Indies are 38 runs behind England's first innings total of 300, with five wickets in hand. Robin Smith made an unbeaten 64 as England's first innings closed with Curtly Ambrose taking 5-74. For the West Indies, Viv Richards scored 80 before he was controversially bowled by Richard Illingworth.

Reports, pages 39, 40

Four acquitted

A Dutch appeal court has acquitted four suspected members of the IRA of the murder last year of two tourists in Roermond. Gerard Hart's appeal against his conviction by a lower court was upheld.

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Saboteur's prize

France has honoured Alain Mafart, the saboteur of the Greenpeace protest ship Rainbow Warrior — only two months after the French prime minister visited New Zealand and apologised for the 1985 bombing of the vessel.

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Noose siege ends: Donald Stewart, held captive in his car at gunpoint for more than 26 hours with a rope around his neck, is shot in the hand before escaping from the car (top). As Mr Stewart runs to safety in Newport, Gwent, armed police in flak jackets rush to arrest his captor. Last night a man was helping South Wales police with their enquiries.

EC imposes total arms embargo on Yugoslavia

FROM ROGER BOYES IN LJUBLJANA AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

EUROPEAN Community foreign ministers, meeting in emergency session in The Hague, yesterday imposed a total arms embargo on Yugoslavia.

The Twelve also agreed to send the troops of three foreign ministers, led by Hans Van den Broek of The Netherlands, back to Yugoslavia to try to arrange a mission to monitor the fragile ceasefire. It will be their third attempt in a week to mediate.

The EC remained divided, however, on whether to recognise the independence of Slovenia and Croatia if the army launched another attack. Germany and Denmark pressed for such a move, but the EC statement said simply that they would reconsider if the ceasefire was breached.

Slovenia yesterday freed Yugoslav army prisoners and said it had demobilised thousands of territorial units. But the republic continued to defy Belgrade's demands to give up border posts, and prepared for a showdown at the weekend with the army. Croatia also said it would fight if Yugoslav tanks crossed its territory on the way to crush Slovenian independence.

Dr Dusan Plut, a member of the Slovene presidency who has been negotiating with the Fifth Army command, said that barricades had been removed from outside army barracks, allowing the besieged soldiers to receive food and other supplies. Prisoners of war were also handed over to the Red Cross and waited for trains to take them south.

Slovene soldiers were still manning the republic's 27 international border crossings with Austria, Hungary and Italy. The Slovene flag still flew there.

In Belgrade the Yugoslav army high command sharply attacked Ante Markovic, the prime minister, saying he was to blame for the turmoil in the country that has killed more than 50 people. "The events in Slovenia were caused by the federal government," General Marko Negovanovic told a news conference. He came close to calling for Mr Markovic's resignation.

In Slovenia the immobilised lorries blocking the highways and city streets either stay in place or have been replaced by improvised anti-tank fencing made out of welded railway track. The Slovenes insist that all captured military equipment will be returned only after a suitable war reparations deal has been reached. The Slovenes say that 180 buildings were destroyed by the Yugoslav army.

Tension is also building up between the leadership of Croatia — which like Slovenia is trying to secede from Yugoslavia — and the army. Croatian national guards have been battling with Serb extremists who crossed the Danube to help foment trouble in the Serbian enclaves in Croatia. The Croatian authorities believe that the army, which has stationed large tank concentrations close to their border, have been protecting these Serbs. At least two Croatian policemen were killed in fighting on Thursday and several people, most of them Serbs, were killed in the village of Borovo Naselje.

In Belgrade thousands of young Serbs are fleeing from Belgrade to avoid being drafted into the army. "Belgrade's airport over the past few days resembles Saigon as everybody scrambles to get out," an airport official said.

EC aid frozen, page 10
Leading article, page 13

Kinnock prepares biggest purge

By PHILIP WEBSTER
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

NEIL Kinnock yesterday prepared the way for Labour's biggest single purge of the Militant tendency and a disciplinary investigation into the conduct of Terry Fields, the Militant-backed Labour MP for Liverpool Broadgreen.

About 100 party members in Liverpool and more from outside are likely to be swiftly expelled, many by the end of the month, for supporting the Militant-backed candidate Lesley Mahmood in the Walton by-election.

Mr Kinnock moved to capitalise on Militant's rout by Peter Kilfoyle, the man who has pursued them for years as a party regional organiser, by promising to act fairly but firmly against anyone who has breached the party constitution. That means anyone who has actively supported and campaigned for Ms Mahmood.

Mr Kinnock's anger was plain. He said: "Clearly among the matters to be considered in the general review of the by-election are the reasons why a neighbouring MP was not engaged in the campaign."

Labour's pleasure at Mr Kilfoyle's triumph was tempered by the big reduction in its majority caused by a 13 per cent swing to the Liberal Democrats and a low turnout, and by the latest national opinion poll suggesting that its lead over the Conservatives has narrowed sharply. The Tories counter-attacked after their worst by-election result in 70 years by demanding action.

Continued on page 24, col 3

Fear of second Chernobyl

Experts from the International Atomic Energy Agency have given a warning of the risks of a nuclear disaster in Bulgaria on the scale of Chernobyl.

An emergency meeting of environment and energy ministers is to be held at the Vienna headquarters of the agency on Tuesday in an attempt to persuade the Bulgarian government to close the nuclear plant at Kozloduy, 125 miles north of Sofia. Among those due to attend are the French and German environment ministers and a senior official from the department of energy, Dr Timothy Walker, head of the Atomic Energy Division. Lord Marshall of Goring, who now runs the World Association of Nuclear Operators, will also be there, together with representatives of the American, Japanese and Bulgarian governments. A group of agency experts visited the Kozloduy plant last month and were alarmed at the safety failings they uncovered. As a result of pressure from Bulgaria, their report has not been published, but a one-page summary of the key issues in the hands of The Times indicates the level of concern.

The experts identified poor work practices, questionable operability of safety equipment in case of accident, many industrial safety hazards and weak emergency planning. To their horror, they found that the plant had returned home, leaving it to be run by inadequately trained Bulgarians.

These operators were unaware of the core design limits of the plant, according to the report.

Continued on page 24, col 6



with representatives of the American, Japanese and Bulgarian governments. A group of agency experts visited the Kozloduy plant last month and were

Prince prescribes spiritual cure for mentally ill

By THOMSON PRENTICE
MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Prince of Wales called yesterday for a return to spiritual values to help heal the casualties of an uncaring society, particularly the mentally ill.

Treatment of mental and physical illnesses were spiritual tasks and not merely matters for medical repair, the prince told the annual conference of the Royal College of Psychiatrists in Brighton. He called for a removal of the stigmas and taboos surrounding mental disorders, and for psychiatrists to be less often the "chemical engineers" powerful drugs in their treatments.

The prince said: "We are not just machines... Should we not be asking ourselves where scientific materialism has been leading us, and what kind of society it has been creating? For the materialist, enlightened by science, would lead us to see illness as a value and with no meaning, and someone with a religious view would need to think of it in a much 'other' frame."

He told 1,000 psychiatrists: "The most vital concern for Western man is to refocus on a divine element in his nature, a light which there can never be taken down from us to our existence."

Idea of danger of cutting ourselves off from that which recognises only mind and body, when, as is too often the case, we are no better than simply a machine, there are no foundations left to build an acceptance of our own weakness, respect for the unique worth of others, and a reconciliation between those classed as mentally ill and society."

The policy of community care for the mentally ill should make treating the whole person within the whole society easier, but provision did not match demand. The prince challenged the wisdom of large-scale closures of mental hospitals. "There will always be people who need a place of sanctuary where they can work through their pain and suffering, with professional support 24 hours a day. To recognise this would be a step forward in national policy."

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Final appeal Review, page 6



Prince Charles: plea to resist "chemical crash"

TODAY IN THE TIMES

ACTING POLITICAL



Americans flocking to see Kevin Costner as Robin Hood are actually seeing his political ideology. Then there is Arnold Schwarzenegger, who may not at first sight seem to be political in Terminator 2. Charles Bremner on message acting.

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FAST WOMEN



Leather zips and bikers' trousers are coming off the motorcycle and into the mainstream of fashion houses as fashion houses catch a trend with origins in the Thirties.

Saturday Review

HARD DRINKING



Most burgundy, says David Lipsey, tastes nasty, brutish and short. Still, nothing is perfect. Lipsey and his burgundy-loving ilk are not of the easy come, easy go variety, which is why nine years spent searching for a decent example is simply a minor inconvenience, an investment of time for a return of ecstasy.

Saturday Review

PLUS...

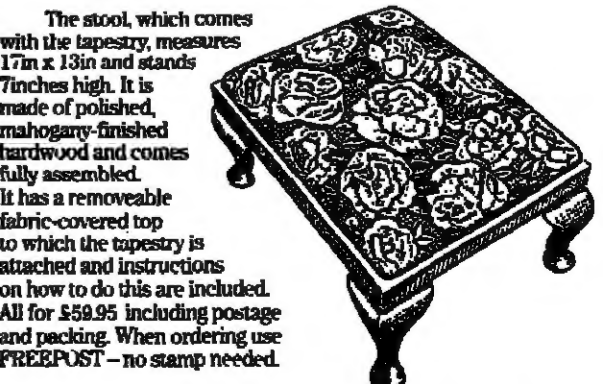
The Saturday Review talks to Baroness Warnock about not quite retiring and visits the men who are fighting, in Kuwait, the world's fiercest oil fires.

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Heseltine may name English Heritage chief in the autumn



Montagu: delay in choice of his successor

A SUCCESSOR to Lord Montagu of Beaulieu as chairman of English Heritage is expected to be announced by Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, in the early autumn. The most likely date will be mid-September, when Mr Heseltine will be guest speaker at the launch of English Heritage's annual report.

Lord Montagu, who was due to retire at the end of September after eight years as the first head of the government's independent advisory body, has, as *The Times* reported earlier this week, agreed to stay on for a further six months. He has, however, made no secret of his irritation at the delay in choosing a successor.

The main reason for the delay is

With just one favoured candidate, and its present incumbent angry at a lack of action, the chairmanship of English Heritage is still in question, John Young reports

seen to be the environment department's strong support for just one candidate, Lord St John of Fawley, chairman of the Royal Fine Art Commission. Chris Patten, former environment secretary and now chairman of the Conservative party, is particularly anxious to see the job being given to Lord St John.

Mr Heseltine succeeded Mr Patten last November but Sir Terence Heiser, the department's

permanent secretary, continues to insist that Lord St John is the obvious candidate and the man the government wishes to appoint.

Lord Montagu has apparently never been asked his views on whom he would like to be his successor. He was unable to obtain an appointment with Mr Heseltine, and his only discussions have been with Lord St John himself, at a Royal Academy dinner, and with Sir Simon

Hornby, chairman of W.H. Smith, who had been put forward as a potential candidate.

Other possible candidates have included Sir David Wilson, director of the British Museum, Sir Roy Strong, director of the Victoria and Albert Museum, and Neil Cossons, director of the Science Museum. None has been approached formally and Sir Simon has made clear that he could not combine the job with that of running a large company.

Many English Heritage staff, including some at senior levels, had voiced strong opposition to the appointment of Lord St John. They were relieved when he indicated recently that he expected to be fully occupied in his new

post as master of Emmanuel College, Cambridge.

Lord St John has been characteristically diplomatic, ducking questions from journalists as to whether he was seriously interested in the English Heritage job. He is, however, said to feel wounded by the opposition to his possible appointment.

Lord Montagu says that the whole episode demonstrates a lack of interest in the future of an important quango, which is much in the public eye. It has a budget of more than £100 million a year and, besides advising the government and local authorities, is responsible for archaeology, the listing of buildings of historic and architectural interest, the award-

ing of repair and restoration grants, and the care and maintenance of hundreds of buildings and ancient monuments.

Lord Montagu is certain to have made clear that the appointment should not be seen as a reward for political services rendered. There are fears that it might go to one of around 70 Conservative MPs who are due to retire at the end of the present Parliament.

An exception might be made for someone such as Peter Walker, who has served with distinction in a number of senior cabinet posts and who has considerable experience and knowledge of environmental matters.

Leading article, page 13

Labour workers say it is time to stamp out Militant threat

By RONALD FAUX

LABOUR party workers in Liverpool believe that there will never be a more appropriate time than now to stamp out Militant in the city where the revolutionary movement began. They expressed their feelings after the emphatic defeat of Lesley Mahmood, the Real Labour candidate, in the Walton by-election.

During the three weeks of the by-election campaign Labour supporters of Peter Kilfoyle were asked to note the names of party members working for the rival camp. "There were Labour people hanging out of windows taking photographs of Mahmood supporters as they put up posters," one Liberal Democrat said. "One shadow minister was even seen snapping away. It was as bad as the KGB."

Mr Kilfoyle, who as regional Labour party organiser was responsible for expelling Derek Hanton and other leading Militants, yesterday distanced himself from the latest purge. "If there are members of Militant left in the Labour party in Liverpool, they are of no consequence," he said. "They are a small group of

LIVERPOOL WALTON

P Kilfoyle (Lab)	21,317
P Clark (L/Dem)	14,457
L Mahmood (R Lab)	2,513
S Greenwood (C)	1,155
Ld D Smith (Mon Loony)	545
E G L Davies (GLDP)	63

6,860 majority

Total vote 40,183 Turnout 58.5

1987: E Heffer (Lab) 34,861; P Clark (L/Dem) 11,408; L Maye (C) 7,728; Lab map: 23,225 (43.2%); Sit: 73, 118. Total vote 53,207. Poll 73.0%

highly motivated people who have infiltrated the party and misled large numbers of otherwise reasonable people down blind alleys."

Mr Kilfoyle said that most were already out of the party. "Once you take out that sort of infection there's a prospect of bringing a great many people back into the Labour fold." He said that the people of Liverpool were not interested in being a political laboratory. They want normal things like jobs, houses and schools.

A dossier of photographs and statements from party workers identifying known Labour members who worked against the elected candidate will soon be on its way to party headquarters. The by-election

result has divided Liverpool Militant supporters, many of whom disagreed with the decision to stand against an official Labour candidate and thus depart from the Trotskyite maxim of developing a power base within an existing institution.

Mrs Mahmood was determined to claw some success from the humiliation, insisting that Walton was merely the start of a longer campaign that would put the broad left in control of Liverpool city council within two years. More than 500 people had turned out to support her during the campaign, many of them Labour party members. Many might be expelled, she said, but they would be back in the party when the socialist tide turned.

In Liverpool, for example, 47 left-wing councillors surcharged and banned from municipal office four years ago for refusing to set a legal rate would next year become eligible to stand again as councillors, she said. Many were keen to return to active politics and had kept a popular following in their wards.

Militant purge, page 13
Leading article, page 13

By-Elections in Labour seats in England since June 1987

Date	Constituency	Cons	Lab	L/Dem	Other	Swing Con to Lab	Swing L/Dem to Lab
June 89	Vauxhall	-10.2	+2.6	-0.7	+8.3	6.4	1.7
May 90	Bootle	-11.0	+8.5	-2.7	+5.3	9.6	5.6
Sept 90	Knowsley S	-6.4	+4.3	-2.4	+4.5	5.3	3.4
Nov 90	Bootle	-10.9	+11.5	-4.1	+3.6	11.3	7.8
Nov 90	Bradford N	-22.7	+8.9	+8.1	+5.6	15.8	0.4
July 91	Liverpool Walton	-11.5	-11.4	+14.8	+8.1	0.0	-13.1
	(Real Lab added to Lab)		-4.9		+1.6	3.3	-8.9

* Includes Independent Liberals, excludes SDP.

A defeat the Tories can afford

THE special politics of Liverpool makes the Walton result more open to misinterpretation than most by-election results. Labour's comfortable, but far from spectacular, win was a poor result for a safe seat where there was no Scottish or Welsh nationalist to siphon additional Labour support.

In every one of the five by-elections in Labour seats in England since the last general election, Labour's vote share has risen, by an average of 7 per cent.

In Walton it fell by 11.4 per cent. This cannot be wholly explained by the broad left's intervention: the combined real Labour plus the official Labour vote was 4.9 per cent down on the 1987 general election. Nor can it be put down to Merseyside's exceptional swing to Labour in 1987: in the three Merseyside by-elections held last year, the Labour vote increased. In a by-election dominated by local issues, the champions of Liverpool's Labour council appear to have cost the left some support.

Ms Mahmood's 6.5 per cent was the far left's best performance since a Communist

Ivor Crewe on why Labour's by-election win is a hollow victory

won 6.8 per cent in Rhondda West in 1967. However, it was a vote in free fall. In the May local elections "independent" (but Militant-backed) Labour candidates won 38 per cent of the vote in the six wards they contested. Early polls put Ms Mahmood's support at 14 per cent. The more that Militant campaigned for her, the faster her support drained away.

The 15 per cent increase in the Liberal Democrat vote looks impressive at first sight. It was easily the best result since the general election in a working-class Labour seat. But in Liverpool, unlike any other major city, the Liberal Democrats are the main opposition to Labour. Their vote of 36 per cent looks less impressive when compared with the 39 per cent they obtained in the Walton in the local elections of 1987, or the 45 per cent-plus that they won in the mid-Eighties.

The Conservatives' derisory 2.9 per cent vote — a mere seventh of their general elec-

tion vote — is a powerful symbol of the party's precipitate decline in Liverpool. In the Fifties, the Conservatives ran Liverpool council and held six of the city's nine parliamentary seats. As late as 1979, Liverpool elected a Conservative to the European parliament and a third of what is now the Walton constituency voted Conservative. So much for Mrs Thatcher's 1987 victory promise to move on to inner city.

The crumb of comfort for the Conservatives is that they are failing where they do not need to win. In Liverpool, a by-election signifies nothing about the Tories' national standing. A better pointer to their general election prospects is provided by national polls, at present placing Labour about 3 per cent ahead.

Given the state of the economy and Conservative divisions over Europe, that is far too slim a margin to make Mr Major anxious or Mr Kinnock confident. A year before the 1987 election, the Tories lagged by 6 per cent, yet they went on to win it handsomely.

Ivor Crewe is professor of government, Essex university.

Enquiry into increase in asthma deaths

By NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

THE National Asthma Campaign has launched a "task-force" to discover why deaths from asthma are rising in Britain.

Donald Lane, the campaign's chairman, said: "Deaths from asthma in England and Wales topped 2,000 in 1988 after a decade of steady increase at just under 10 per cent a year." Dr Lane said that the situation was serious if not scandalous.

The task force, which is supported by the British Thoracic Society and the Royal College of Physicians, will continue confidential enquiries into asthma deaths, study the effects of bronchodilator drugs, and examine asthma care in hospitals and the community.

Doctors are concerned that the increasing use of drugs to control asthma symptoms has not been matched by a reduction in deaths. Some believe that more careful prescribing and better monitoring of patients are needed.

The setting up of the task force comes after a meeting of asthma specialists attended by representatives of many medical bodies, and paediatricians and GPs with an interest in the subject. The group will initiate and co-ordinate research, disseminate recommendations, and act as a liaison body and authoritative voice on asthma issues.

'Job pressure' forces BBC chief out of keynote speech

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Tusa, managing director of the BBC World Service, has withdrawn unexpectedly from his commitment to give the keynote lecture at this year's Edinburgh international television festival. He gave as his reason "pressures at work".

His decision not to deliver the MacTaggart memorial lecture next month comes just three days after John Birt was chosen by the BBC board of governors to replace Michael Checkland as director-general in 1993.

Mr Tusa, who had been considered by many broadcasters as a strong candidate for director-general, is said not to see eye-to-eye with Mr Birt. Mr Tusa's contract expires at the end of next year.

A World Service spokesman yesterday denied that Mr Tusa's withdrawal from the Edinburgh speech next month had anything to do with Mr

Birt's appointment. "Contrary to rumours, he is not about to resign," the spokesman said, refusing to elaborate on the cause or extent of Mr Tusa's working pressures.

In a letter sent yesterday to Roger Bolton, the festival chair and controller of factual programmes at Thames Television, Mr Tusa said: "I am all too aware of the difficulty that late withdrawal such as this causes you and the committee and the embarrassment as well. I can only plead a pressure of work which I should have foreseen, but which would, I now realise, prevent me from delivering

the kind of lecture that I would want to give on such an occasion and that the event deserves."

The World Service managing director, who has spent much of his energies launching World Service Television News, had been asked to talk about the future shape of the British television industry and whether Britain could remain at the forefront of change in broadcasting.

Mr Tusa has volunteered to make suggestions about a possible replacement for the lecture, which in the past has been given by Jeremy Isaacs and Rupert Murdoch.

Manx homosexual in protest over sex law

By ROBIN YOUNG

THE only man on the Isle of Man who publicly professes to be homosexual yesterday exercised the ancient right of Manx citizens to petition the island's assembly at its annual open air Tynwald Day sitting at St John's.

Alan Shea, convenor of the Ellen Vannin Gay Group, presented a five-page petition pointing out that Manx legislation forbids sexual acts between men, but makes no restriction on women. He argues that that is in breach of the European Convention on Human Rights, but that since the Isle of Man is the only

territory that does not recognise the right of individual petition, there is no chance of redress.

The Manx parliament recently rejected an attempt to bring the law into line with that of the UK. Tim Barnett, of the Stonewall Group, which has been lobbying on the issue, said yesterday: "Alan Shea's dignified public protest to the ultimate democratic authority on the Isle of Man reiterates the message that the laws which they uphold are unjust and harmful, denying citizens a fundamental human right."

Name change

An Indian takeover in Newport, Gwent, was yesterday banned by a High Court judge from using the name Hilton Tandoori. The proprietor, Tahir Ullah, was ordered by Mr Justice Mervyn Davies to remove all references to the name from his takeover after the Hilton hotel group, which has 39 hotels in the UK, claimed that it was a deliberate attempt to cause deception and confusion.

Decision delay

Amia Ismail, a former assistant catering manager who claimed he was unfairly dismissed by the Crownwell hospital, London, and alleged that the hospital overcharged patients must wait until September for a decision from an industrial tribunal. The hospital countered his claims by saying that he had publicised the alleged overcharging to embarrass the hospital into paying out substantial sums.

Chess victory

Manchester grammar school yesterday won the British Schools Chess Championship, sponsored by *The Times* and held at the Charing Cross hotel, central London. The team of six beat Sutton Manor high school, Surrey, by four points to two. In the third place play-off, Hymers college, Hull, beat St Columb's college, London-derry. Four hundred schools took part in the competition.

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Thomas Simon, *The Sunday Times*.

Oddbins
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The Times

Oddbins
Seppelt's Riesling 1989
Cuvée NV 1989-90
"Charming Blanc and similar, provides the base of this marvellous blend."
Jane MacIntyre, *The Times*

Oddbins
Mexican Dantes 1989
"A fine sparkling wine, certainly among the best I have ever tasted, and a very nice price."
The Times

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SPYGLASS

Dutch court clears four of murdering Australian tourists

From MARK FULLER
in DEN BOSCH,
THE NETHERLANDS

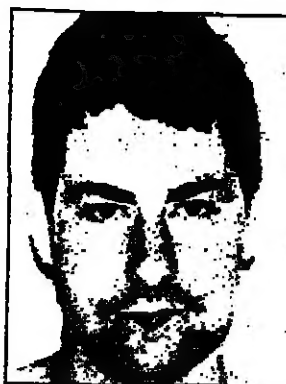
FOUR suspected members of the IRA were acquitted by a Dutch appeal court yesterday of the murder last year of two Australian tourists in Roermond. Three judges upheld an appeal by Gerard Harte against his conviction by a lower court because of discrepancies in witness accounts.

Mr Harte was jailed for 18 years in April for the murder of Nicholas Spanos, aged 28, and Stefan Melrose, aged 24, whom the IRA claimed it had "tragically mistaken" for British servicemen. Unlike in England, the Dutch prosecutor has the right of appeal. The appeal judges also upheld the lower court's acquittals of Donna Maguire, aged 25, Sean Hick, 30, and Paul Hughes, 27, because the case against them was not "legally or convincingly proven".

Miss Maguire and Mr Hughes, both from Newry, Co Down, Mr Harte, from Lurgan, and Mr Hick, from Dublin, had been charged with murder and/or complicity to murder. They had all denied the charges.

As they were led from court yesterday Mr Harte raised a clenched fist, Mr Hughes gave a thumbs-up sign and Miss Maguire waved to the gallery. Outside the court Patricia Maguire, Miss Maguire's mother, said: "Justice has been done for all of them."

The four, however, were immediately rearrested in



Harte still facing charge of belonging to the IRA

connection with a second charge - that of belonging to an illegal organisation, the IRA. Extradition orders have also been granted to Germany for Miss Maguire, Mr Hick, and Mr Hughes in connection with a series of attacks against British servicemen and installations.

The membership charge was referred back to the lower court in Roermond at the beginning of the ten-day appeal. Roermond will deliver its verdict next Friday. If acquitted, Mr Harte will be allowed to walk free.

Public prosecutor Frits van Straelen said that he was disappointed with the verdicts, and it was sad that no one would now be convicted for the brutal killings by a terrorist organisation. "It is nobody's fault. The mass of evidence was simply not sufficient," he said.

The presiding judge Wim Smulders said that the court

had heard much circumstantial evidence but it had contained no direct link between the suspects and the shootings of the two tourists in the town's market square on May 27 last year. He declared the complicity charges void because there was a lack of factual description.

The appeal court discredited the only sighting of one of the suspects near the scene of the crime. Judge Smulders said that Hendrika Heitzer-Pollard, the witness who allegedly saw Mr Harte in the passenger seat of the getaway car, was a respectable and truthful person. He said, however, that there was a conflict between the woman's description of Mr Harte as shabby and unshaven and another sighting of the suspect half an hour later. A garage attendant in Sittard, a town near Roermond, had described Harte as being clean shaven and wearing a trendy brown suit.

Mrs Heitzer-Pollard's sighting of Mr Harte had been made in difficult circumstances. She had been able to see the Mazda car, which was travelling at speed, for only a few seconds, and it was also dark.

A justice ministry source rejected criticisms that the Dutch judicial system was too lenient. He said: "We simply could not prove that any one of the suspects was in the market square. We just needed one more witness."

The public prosecutor said it would be unlikely for the prosecution to appeal as its case had been rejected on factual grounds.

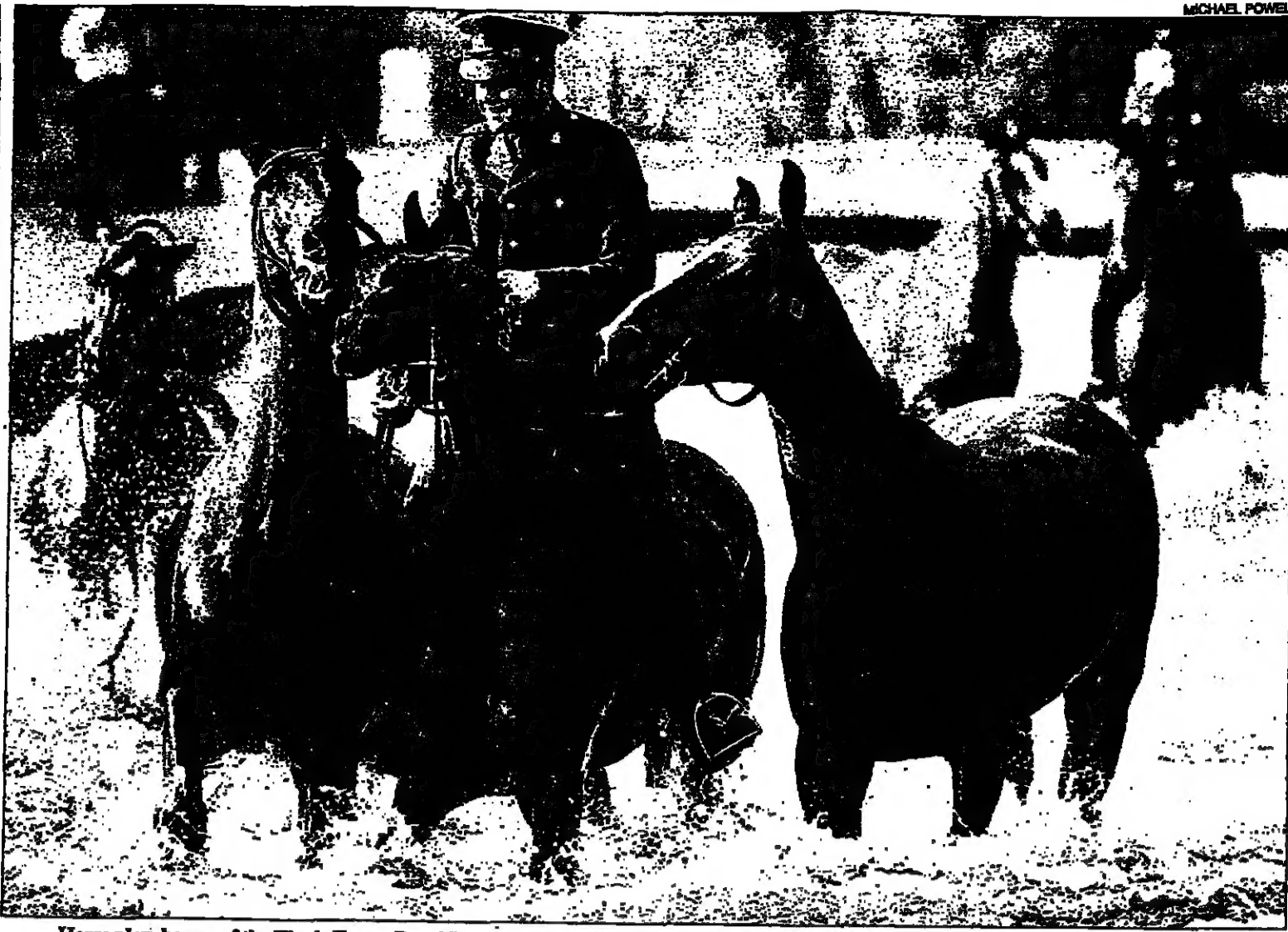
The acquittals came as a severe blow to Dutch police. The detailed dossiers had been compiled by police forces in The Netherlands, Belgium, Britain and Germany and it was the first major joint operation by European anti-terrorist squads.

The suspects were arrested in June last year after Miss Maguire, Mr Harte and Mr Hick were spotted by a farmer and his son in a Belgian wood, just over the Dutch border. They were allegedly engaged in target practice and police found two arms caches nearby which included the rifle and pistol used in the Roermond attack.

Miss Maguire was arrested immediately and although Mr Harte and Mr Hick escaped back to The Netherlands, they were arrested later. The fourth suspect, Mr Hughes, was arrested after trying to rescue Mr Hick.

In two cars allegedly used by the suspects, police found traces of Semtex explosive and ammunition similar to that used in the Roermond attack. Dutch police also uncovered a safe house in The Hague which they alleged the four suspects used as a base to plan and carry out the killings. Fingerprints of all four were found in the house, and of Desmond Grew, a known IRA gunman, who was shot dead by the SAS last year. Police also found presses for making false identification papers and number plates.

A key was also found in the possession of Mr Hick which fitted a flat in Hannover allegedly used by the IRA as another safe house. Miss Maguire was in possession of drawings detailing border crossings between The Netherlands and Germany and the positions of British military installations.



Horse play: horses of the King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, find a pond at Hampstead, north London, ideal for cooling off after a morning exercise session in the summer heat. The King's Troop is in training for the Royal Tournament. Forecast, page 24

Barlow Clowes chief shredded files, jury told

By ANGELA MACKAY

DEFENDANTS in the Barlow Clowes trial allegedly shredded a large number of documents and replaced them with bogus files to deceive trade and industry inspectors, a jury at the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Alan Suckling QC, for the Serious Fraud Office, said one of the defendants, Peter Clowes, chief of the collapsed financial services group, had ordered files "doctored" at the end of 1987, and had stolen clients' funds from an offshore subsidiary to replace the spent funds belonging to onshore investors.

Mr Clowes "closely supervised" the shredding of documents carried out on an "unprecedented scale". Mr Suckling alleged that Barlow Clowes staff were told not to discuss the shredding, the visit of DTI inspectors who were looking into the British arm of the group, nor that the shredded documents were being stored across the road.

Mr Suckling said the defendant knew that the inspectors were likely to find there were not enough gift stocks to repay the clients. Clients were told that their money was being invested in British gilt-edged securities. "Mr Clowes could not afford any extension of the secretary of state's scrutiny into the offshore funds for obvious reasons," Mr Suckling said.

Mr Clowes, helped by Christopher Newman, another of those charged, stole £16 million from the overseas clients' accounts and arranged for gifts to be bought to plug the gap, Mr Suckling alleged.

He said that after the investigation, Mr Clowes decided one yacht was not enough for him, and in May 1988 he spent a million dollars to buy the Yara, a Kuwaiti-registered sister ship to the Boukaphnia, bought the year before for \$2.5 million.

Mr Suckling said that at a later stage it appeared the vigilance and tenacity of the

auditors, Spicers, had fallen below what one might have expected of them. There was never an audit of the clients' accounts, despite the millions of pounds invested. "It may be that Spicers can be criticised for this," Mr Suckling said.

Peter Clowes, aged 50, and three executives in the Barlow Clowes group deny various charges of conspiracy, theft of clients' money, and making false statements to induce clients to enter investment schemes. The other three defendants are Peter Naylor, 35, of Sand, Surrey, Guy von Cramer, 29, of Micklethwaite, West Yorkshire, and Mr Newman, 37, of Polstead, Suffolk. The trial continues.

Police fear for kidnap girl, aged 2

POLICE said last night that they feared for the safety of a girl aged two snatched yesterday by her father and a bogus policewoman who forced their way into her home in north London and tied her mother to a bed with live electrical cable.

Scotland Yard said that Vida Fenton was a ward of court and that her father, Bernard Downes, aged 28, a social worker with the London borough of Waltham Forest, did not have right of access. Police said that Downes was believed to be mentally disturbed and should not be approached.

Police believe that Downes, who has an anglo-Asian appearance, was probably still in Britain and might be travelling with the child and the woman, posing as a family.

The High Court yesterday lifted a publicity ban to help in the hunt for the child.

Action on Halford flawed, QC says

A DECISION to launch police disciplinary proceedings against Alison Halford, Britain's most senior woman officer, was legally flawed, a High Court judge was told yesterday.

Stephen Sedley, QC, for Miss Halford, an assistant chief constable with Mersey-

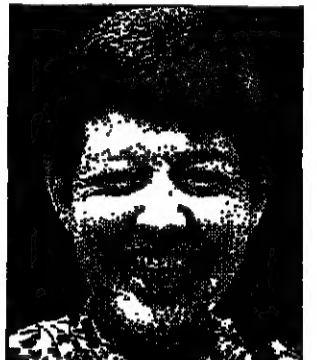
side police, said: "There has been a fundamental departure from lawful procedure." He asked Mr Justice Tudor Evans to let Miss Halford apply for judicial review and seek orders quashing the decision, which led to her suspension.

The disciplinary moves followed allegations of misconduct at a local businessman's swimming pool while Miss Halford was the force's senior officer on duty.

Mr Sedley said that a decision of Merseyside's Senior Officers Discipline Committee to refer the issue to the Police Complaints Authority was outside its powers.

Brian Leveson, QC, for Merseyside Police Authority, said that the committee had had a power properly given to it by the authority's chairman and vice-chairman "in circumstances of urgency".

The judge is due to give his decision within a few weeks.



Halford yesterday: plea to High Court judge

Grim outlook for Ulster violence

By EDWARD GORMAN
IRISH AFFAIRS
CORRESPONDENT

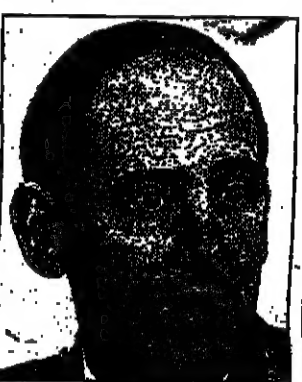
THE threat from paramilitary groups in Northern Ireland is at its highest level for two years and an increase in violence is likely, the chief constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary said yesterday.

"We are facing probably the highest terrorist threat in the last two years," Hugh Annesley said at the launch of the force's annual report. "The situation could be made only worse by Loyalists abandoning their ceasefire after the collapse of the Brooke talks, he said. "If the Loyalists come back into the fray with more random killings, then it will be grim."

Mr Annesley, who has opted for a lower public profile than his predecessor Sir John Hermon, said that the strategy of the IRA and the Republican movement generally was a sham. "They are not actually going anywhere. They've had an awful lot of own goals and their political mandate is reducing."

He said that sooner or later the IRA and Sinn Féin would have to pull away from its campaign of violence and enter constitutional talks.

Sinn Féin said that Mr Annesley was in no position to lecture Republicans on their strategy. A spokesman said that the chief constable led a force criticised by Amnesty International over allegations of collusion with Loyalist paramilitaries, the mistreat-



Annesley: "Terrorism risk highest for two years"

ment of prisoners and allegations that the police operated a shoot-to-kill policy.

Mr Annesley's report for last year records that 65 people were killed by Republican and Loyalist groups, eight more in total than in 1989. Of that number, 46 were killed by Republicans.

While the number of offences was slightly up on the previous year, the increase was lower than the national trend. Significantly, public order continued to improve, which was reflected in a fall to 257 in the number of plastic bullets fired compared to 937 in 1989 and 3,109 in 1988.

During the year 12 police officers were killed. The force lost 191,707 days through sickness and 44,945 through injury while on duty. "Health problems continue to fall," the report says.

Last year, 2,480 cases of complaint against police officers and traffic wardens were received. Of 1,651 complaints fully investigated, 61 were found to be substantiated.

Conor Cruise O'Brien, page 12

THE SUNDAY TIMES

A shameful way to treat Thatcher

The Madrid ambush was a shameful episode. Margaret Thatcher was furious and with considerable justification. Lawson and Howe had come to the decision that they wanted to join the EMS against her contrary



view. It was not a collective decision to join taken in Cabinet. They had forced their policy on her by an ultimatum.

Serialisation of Nicholas Ridley's memoirs, *My Style of Government - The Thatcher Years*, starts tomorrow, in *The Sunday Times*

Naturists' plea for an official beach receives a royal rebuff

By ALAN HAMILTON

NATURISTS seeking to establish an officially designated beach in north Cornwall on which they can cast their cloths without frightening the horses have had a frosty response from agents acting for the Prince of Wales, who owns much of the county.

Local officials of the Central Council for British Naturism, the representative body of the unclothed, have asked the Duchy of Cornwall, which owns 26,000 acres of the county and large stretches of the coastline, for support in creating a beach exclusively for those to whom even a fig leaf is an encumbrance in the sun. The Duchy has replied that it would not be thought appropriate if it were to designate beaches as naturist.

"Point taken," observes the current issue of *British Naturism*, the movement's

magazine. "The media would have a field day if they did."

Although no specific site was under consideration, the Duchy's stance will almost certainly rule out much of the north Devon and Cornwall coast. An officially designated naturist beach needs the agreement of the landowner and the local authority; at present there are only eight official beaches in the country, although another 300 are used unofficially by naturists.

A spokesman for the south-west region of the CCBN said: "There is a big demand, but convincing landowners of our good intentions is a problem. People down here have the wrong idea; they think we have mass orgies, whereas all we do is sit around and talk like normal people. If you look at a naked body for

more than five minutes, it becomes boring."

Cornwall has only one official naturist beach, at Polgaver Bay, on the south coast, but local enthusiasts fear that they may soon lose its facilities because it has a new owner.

The CCBN admits that it is difficult to acquire new beaches for naturism due to the public's sceptical view of the movement. *British Naturism* says: "The tabloid press is only too willing to associate naturism with any deviant perversion. It is always eager to do an expose, while at the same time carrying advertisements for pornographic videos."

As for the Prince of Wales himself, he is understood to be a confirmed textile - the name given by the birthday-suit to those preferring to retain a shred of modesty, even in heat like yesterday's.

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Dioxin trace puts blight on farmer's dairy herd

By MICHAEL HORNBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

GORDON Rockley, a 63-year-old Derbyshire dairy farmer, started having sleepless nights on Tuesday, June 25. The date is fixed in his mind because that was the day he received a telephone call from the agriculture ministry warning him that there was something seriously wrong with his milk.

"They would not say what the problem was and asked if they could visit the farm the next day," Mr Rockley said yesterday. "Some ministry people, health officials, a man from the Milk Marketing Board, a doctor and a scientist from the government's food science laboratory at Norwich turned up the next morning."

The grim news that the officials brought was that unacceptably high levels of dioxin, one of the world's deadliest poisons, had been found in milk from the 40 Friesian cows that Mr Rockley keeps on the 200-acre Woodside Farm at Shuttlewood, near Bolsover, where he and his wife, Gladys, have been tenants for 27 years. His contract to sell milk to the marketing board, which has monopoly purchasing powers, was cancelled the next day.

The ministry has told Mr Rockley that there is a "strong possibility" that he will never be able to sell milk again. To make matters worse, he will have to wait three months, while further tests are carried out on soil, grass and blood samples, before he will know whether the beef cattle he raises, and the barley, wheat and oats he grows, have been similarly blighted.

Woodside Farm is one of only two in the country to

have shown dioxin-in-milk levels above the guideline set by the ministry and the health department. The other is nearby Lodge Farm. Both are close to a plant of the Coalite chemical company, part of which exploded in 1968, suggesting a possible common source of contamination. The ministry has declined to apportion blame.

The toxins, widely found in the environment, are by-products of some chemical and combustion processes, including waste incineration and coal burning. Herbicide is another possible source, but Mr Rockley is not an intensive farmer. It is only in the past year or so that advances in analytical techniques have permitted detection of minute traces of dioxin.

Concern about dioxins, high levels of which can cause long-term illness and deformities goes back to the Seventies when large amounts were released in a chemical accident at Seveso, Italy. Tests in Britain have shown higher levels in milk from farms near industrial centres and municipal incinerators than in milk from other areas.

Ministry officials say that milk from the two Derbyshire farms would have been distributed with other supplies before sale and would pose no threat to the public.

Now, everyone is hoping that the high dioxin levels found in the Bolsover area will prove to be a one-off phenomenon. That, however, would be little consolation to Gordon and Gladys Rockley, whose farm is, as Mr Rockley puts it, "in limbo".



Out for the catch: Ernie James who, at 85, is carrying on a 200-year family line of eel basket makers on the Norfolk fens. Mr James, who uses local willow for the baskets, is the only remaining trap-maker along the rivers of Welney, near Ely

Call for after hours school clubs for latchkey children

By JOHN O'LEARY, HIGHER EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

ONE primary school child in six is a latchkey child, left alone at home after school and during the holidays, it was said yesterday at the launch of a campaign to promote after-school clubs.

Shortage of money is forcing many local authorities to reduce provision of child-care facilities. In London, a 26 per cent decline is expected in places available over the summer holidays. The boroughs of Camden, Greenwich and Lambeth, the largest providers, are cutting back most.

Lord Young of Dartington, the founder of the Consumers' Association, plans to establish a foundation for after-school activities offering start-up grants to schools and local authorities to encourage the formation of clubs. He said: "What we propose would not

require huge funding, but it does need careful planning and commitment."

The immediate aim of the campaign is to secure pre-election pledges from political parties to make greater use of school premises. A survey for the campaign estimated that up to 70 per cent of school capacity is unused over a full year. "No other national resource is as underused as that," a booklet by Lord Young and Matthew Owen, of the Institute of Community Studies, said.

A Gallup poll for the 21 voluntary organisations and trade unions supporting the campaign found that 70 per cent of those surveyed believed that supervised activities should be available in schools until at least 6pm during the week. Almost two-

thirds thought that they should also be available during holidays.

In 1989, the government asked local authorities and school governing bodies to consider what out-of-hours use could be made of schools. No money was offered, however, and there has been little extra provision.

The survey showed that only 3 per cent of schools were open until 6pm on five days a week. More than half were open only during normal school hours, and chief education officers predicted reduced services.

The leaders of the campaign estimate that only 10 per cent of a school's pupils need to join out-of-hours activities to sustain a club. Nominal fees could be sought from parents, with exemptions for those unable to pay. Teachers would not be expected to run the activities, although some might be offered second contracts for out-of-hours work.

Move to ban play on sex and religion fails

By LIN JENKINS

A STUDENT play allegedly featuring Christ in scenes of rape is to go ahead in spite of protests by religious leaders and a Labour MP. A planned open air showing, however, has been cancelled.

Protests about the play, *Confession of a Sexist Baboon*, came after publicity which suggested that it also featured Christ in scenes of castration and incest and referred to him cross-dressing. The play, by Gary Reich, a Sheffield university graduate, is to be performed on two nights next week as part of the city's cultural festival which is running alongside the World Student Games.

Jo Henderson, the festival organiser, as well as a local council solicitor and two representatives from South Yorkshire police were given a preview and deemed the performance within the bounds of the law. However, the festival has decided to 'abandon two planned open air

performances in the city's Tudor Square and to put up notices warning ticket buyers that some people might find the play offensive.

David Blunkett, Labour MP for Sheffield Brightside, Muslim community leaders in the city and the Catholic Women's League were among those who complained, although the play had not been shown before an audience.

Ray Gridley, director of administration for the games, said: "The play may cause offence to those with strong religious beliefs and they are entitled to be warned when purchasing tickets. Anybody who has bought a ticket and no longer wishes to see it can have their money refunded."

A city council spokesman said: "When you mention sex and religion in the same sentence you have a formula designed to upset some people. But by doing so more people now know about the play than would have done."

Pilger TV libel case settled

By ROBIN YOUNG

TWO men who claimed that a television documentary accused them of being SAS members who trained Pol Pot's Khmer Rouge to lay mines, accepted "very substantial" libel damages in the High Court yesterday.

Christopher Geidt and Anthony De Normann settled their action against the journalist John Pilger and Central Television on the third day of its hearing. Their counsel, Geoffrey Shaw, QC, said the terms provided substantial damages with all costs.

Desmond Browne, QC, for Mr Pilger and Central Television, said his clients had not intended to allege the two men trained the Khmer Rouge to lay mines, but they accepted that was how the programme had been understood.

A second libel action, brought by the two men against Ann Clwyd, shadow minister for overseas development, was also settled. They accepted a public apology from Ms Clwyd who had written to the prime minister last October after the programme calling for a public enquiry. Ms Clwyd referred to meeting two men in Cambodia whom she understood to be former SAS members, and released her letter to the press.

Her counsel, James Price, said she had also agreed to meet all their legal costs in the action taken against her.

Chemist is jailed for deception

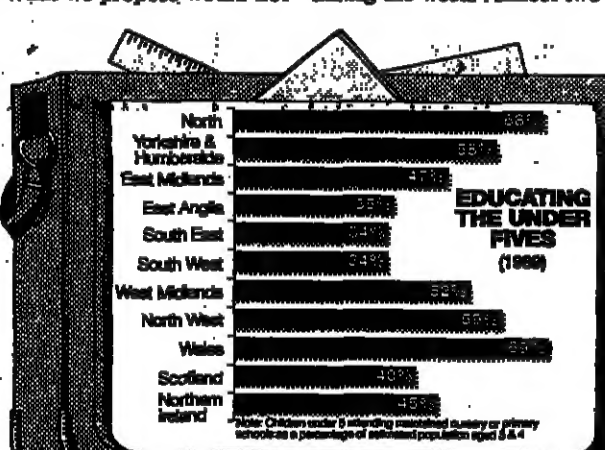
A JUDGE criticised the Pharmaceutical Society yesterday when he jailed a chemist who had worked as a pharmacist in hospitals and high street stores without anyone realising he was not qualified.

Judge Appleby said the case was a scandal that could have put the health of thousands of people at risk. Jailing Kuldeep Singh Flora for 18 months, he said: "It is scandalous that you were allowed to do this by the society, which made no checks on your qualifications."

"I find it incredible that the society insisted on proof of birth and marriage documents, but did not mention anything about proof of his qualifications."

Flora, aged 34, married with five children, from Coalville, Leicestershire, filled in a false application form to register with the society, even though he failed his pharmacy examination at university. No one at the society checked his qualifications and he was registered as a fully-trained pharmacist within seven days. Grimsby crown court was told.

Over the next three years, Flora, who admitted obtaining pecuniary advantage by deception, worked in 89 dispensaries, including high street chemists and hospitals. He was found out when he applied for a job at a chemist's shop in Cleethorpes, Humberside, and the owner checked his qualifications.



Wales provides most free nursery places

CHILDREN under five are twice as likely to get a free nursery place in Wales or in Northern Ireland and 40 per cent in Scotland.

Within England, only the North had places for more than two thirds of the age group. The South-East and South-West provided places for barely one third, while East Anglia was only slightly better.

The distribution of nursery places has become a sensitive political issue with both Labour and the Liberal Democrats promising universal provision.

Places in nurseries run or registered by local authorities are scarce in Kent, where less than one child in ten was catered for in 1989. At the other extreme, nearly nine out of ten children in West Glamorgan had nursery places at the age of three and four.

In Wales, the average provision of nursery places was 69 per cent of three and four

year olds, compared with 45 per cent in England and Northern Ireland and 40 per cent in Scotland.

Regional Trends 26 (Stationery Office, £23)

Cook's £18,500 ticket to ride

By CRAIG SETON

THOMAS Cook might turn in his grave if he knew that the travel company he founded 150 years ago with a one shilling railway excursion through the Leicestershire countryside was now charging £18,500 for an around-the-world tour.

The company celebrated its anniversary yesterday with a re-enactment of that first excursion organised by the company's founding father when he was secretary of the Leicester Temperance Society.

On July 5, 1841, Mr Cook, aged 33 and a local printer, chartered a train and took 570 people, including his employees, the ten miles from Leicester to Loughborough for a temperance rally. The one shilling included the return fare, a tea of ham sandwiches and buns, a brass band, a cricket



Middleton: praise for Cook the travel pioneer

match and dances. Yesterday, Thomas Cook staff dressed in Victorian costume re-enacted the journey, this time travelling in open carriages behind a working replica of Stephenson's Rocket.

Just as people lined the route 150 years ago to cheer Cook's temperance followers, rail enthusiasts and local

people gathered on road bridges over the line to glimpse the replica engine. Among the guests was Tom Cook, a farmer and the founding father's great, great grandson.

After his first "package tour" Thomas Cook, a keen churchman and philanthropist, developed his travel business by organising other excursions to Leicestershire beauty spots and then nationally. He believed that travel could improve the condition of the working man, whom he was anxious to keep from the temptations of demon drink.

The company provided transport for an expedition to try to relieve General Gordon at Khartoum in 1884. Three years later, in 1887, the company took dignitaries from England to India to celebrate Queen Victoria's golden jubilee. In 1927 it organised the first air

charter from New York to Chicago for boxing supporters travelling to watch a match between Dempsey and Tunney. Three years later the company began its first package tours to the south of France.

The group, which was sold by the Cook family in 1929, now has 114 offices. Peter Middleton, its chief executive, said that Thomas Cook's contribution to the founding and development of the tourism industry was greater than any other.

In its 150th anniversary year, the company has chartered a modified private jet for a 34-day around-the-world tour visiting six continents and seven wonders of the modern world, including the Pyramids, the Taj Mahal and the Great Wall of China. A spokesman said £18,500 might seem the height of extravagance, but then it was no ordinary holiday.

Should men over 40 be on the pill?

Heart maintenance

Enjoying a long and active life depends on keeping the heart and circulation healthy. Happily, research is now showing us a number of ways in which we could really help ourselves:

1. Eat less fat - more fibre
2. Take more exercise
3. Stop smoking and...
4. Start taking garlic

Why garlic?

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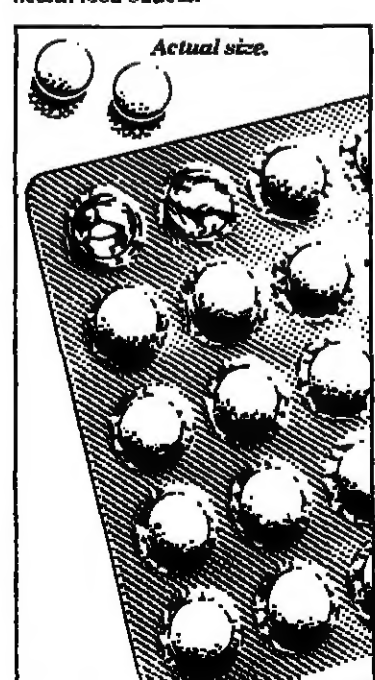
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Government resists pressure for extra council tax bands

By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE government has ruled out significant changes to its new council tax and will publish regulations confirming its intention of grouping properties into seven value bands before the end of the month.

Ministers have resisted pressure from Conservative backbenchers for additional tax bands to cover high-value properties or to adopt a system of regional bands.

The disclosure that regulations were already in an advanced state of preparation brought an accusation from the Labour party that ministers had ignored responses to the consultation exercise on the tax, which closed on June 14.

The strongest calls for change have come from Tory MPs in the South-East where up to 41 per cent of properties would fall into the highest tax band covering homes worth more than £160,000.

The regulations will however include one concession: a strengthening of procedures for appealing against council tax valuations. The regulations are otherwise unchanged from the proposals published in April and will be laid before the Commons before its summer recess at the end of the month.

Ministers are anxious for the valuation process to start as soon as possible to ensure the smooth introduction of

the new tax, due to replace the community charge in April 1993. The Audit Commission has said that a tight timetable must be set and adhered to if the tax is to be introduced on time, warning that every year of delay will cost taxpayers £800 million.

The environment department said yesterday that it had received hundreds of submissions from professional bodies and individuals.

David Blunkett, Labour's local government spokesman, said: "It appears that the consultation exercise has been a complete sham. Those Tory MPs who hoped to be able to make changes through the primary legislation should have heeded our warnings. They have been hoodwinked. These regulations will set the principles of the council tax in stone."

Labour, he said, would demand a Commons debate

before the summer recess. "The government will not get away with this attempt to slip the council tax in unnoticed."

The regulations cannot be published until the Local Government Finance and Valuation Bill, which begins its Lords stage on Monday, has been given Royal Assent. The job of steering the bill through the Lords lies with Lady Blatch, the junior environment minister, who is certain to face a tough ride. The influence of government whips has been reduced by disagreement over life sentences for murder. Ministers, however, are confident that assent will be given within the next fortnight.

The new legislation gives the government powers to begin the valuation process, the first phase of which will cost £250 million, and allows ministers to issue regulations to lay down valuation bands.

Peers fear dogs bill could be used to outlaw foxhunting

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

SPORTING peers fear that the government's dangerous dogs bill could be used by saboteurs or a left-wing government to threaten or even outlaw foxhunting.

The peers, supported by the Masters of Foxhounds Association, British Field Sports Society, Country Landowners' Association and National Farmers' Union, will demand changes to narrow the scope of the legislation to prevent saboteurs taking advantage of the tougher controls on dogs to launch private prosecutions against hunts.

After a private meeting with Tory backbench peers, Kenneth Baker, the home secretary, accepted their case for some changes and tabled his own amendment yesterday to prevent frivolous prosecutions.

When the hunting peers begin detailed work on the bill in the Lords on Wednesday they will urge him to go further in protecting hunts.

The young Tory peer Lord Mancroft, former joint-master of the Eton and Vale of the White Horse hunt, said: "We are concerned that the bill would leave hunters open to frivolous court actions. I hope the government realises how strong the feeling is on all sides of the House of Lords. A future left-wing administration may try to include foxhounds as dangerous dogs."

The bill, to outlaw American pit bull terriers and other fighting dogs, was drafted so quickly that the peers, and the Lords' clerks, believe that they have spotted other flaws, most notably clause two which al-

lows a home secretary to extend the legislation to cover other breeds of dogs in the stringent controls requiring castration, registration and muzzling in public. Peers are rallying behind an amendment by Lord Radnor to remove the clause.

As the bill was pushed through the Commons in one day, the peers are planning a line-by-line scrutiny during the next three weeks before it receives royal assent.

Two private member's bills completed their passage through Parliament yesterday. The Wildlife and Countryside (Amendment) Bill provides for land-owners to be prosecuted if they instruct gamekeepers to break the law while the badgers bill protects badger setts.



Dressed for the occasion: Giorgio Armani preparing to receive an honorary doctorate from the Royal College of Art

Royal College of Art honours Armani, Lynch and Quant

By LIZ SMITH, FASHION EDITOR

THE Royal College of Art showered its glittering prizes on international stars in the fashion, art and communications world yesterday. David Lynch, the film director, and the Italian fashion designer Giorgio Armani both received honorary doctorates. Mary Quant, creator of the Sixties miniskirt, who made fashion history without any formal design training, was elected a senior fellow.

The college's convocation ceremony, at which 307 graduating students from 25 countries received degrees, was held in the neighbouring Albert Hall. The architect Sir Norman Foster, responsible for Stansted airport and the new Sackler Galleries at the Royal Academy, the artist R B Kitaj and the industrial

designer Dieter Rams, who invented such early status symbols as the Braun black matt electric shaver and the cylindrical coffee grinder, also received honorary doctorates.

David Lynch, a student at no fewer than three art schools in America before embarking on his film career, wore a red and burgundy velvet academic robe over his dark suit and matching dark shirt and doffed his gold-tasseled black hat in dashing style when he received his doctorate. His citation, read by Professor Christopher Frayling, referred to his "continuing source of inspiration to countless young film-makers everywhere".

Mr Armani, who studied medicine at Bologna university before turning to fashion design, is credited with taking the stuffiness out of men's tailoring with his unstructured jackets, offbeat colours and relaxed styling. Mr Armani has built a £300 million fashion empire on his design philosophy of "rumpled" chic. His fast-selling, lower-priced line is called Emporio Armani. He flew in for the ceremony from Milan, where he has just paraded the latest Armani menswear collection for 1992.

Mary Quant pioneered shopping as entertainment with the opening in 1955 of her Bazaar shop in the Kings Road in Chelsea. Professor Frayling said: "Just as Mary Quant means the Sixties, Armani sums up the Eighties and maybe beyond," he said.

New court action on 'MacLean' novels

A publisher accused of breaching the Trade Descriptions Act over two novels faces further summonses over the books, a court was told yesterday.

William Collins, of Glasgow, is accused of applying false descriptions to *Death Train* and *Night Watch* by implying they were by the top-selling author Alistair MacLean. A case brought by Warwickshire county council's trading standards department involving two allegations relating to *Death Train* was to be heard at Stratford-upon-Avon yesterday, but South Warwickshire magistrates adjourned it until September 23.

The court was told the company faced nine similar allegations involving alleged offences at other bookshops. The publisher said that the allegations would be denied. Reporting restrictions were not lifted.

Police chief

John Stevens, aged 48, deputy chief constable of Cambridgeshire, is to head Northumbria police when Sir Stanley Bailey retires in September. Mr Stevens led a 1989 enquiry into security forces in Ulster.

Pit bull shot

Police shot dead an American pit bull terrier during a search for drugs and firearms on a house in West Norwood, south-east London, yesterday. A man was arrested.

Factory closes

Wolsey Knitwear of Dumfries is to close with the loss of 183 jobs. The firm, part of Courtaulds Textiles, blamed the recession.

School's out

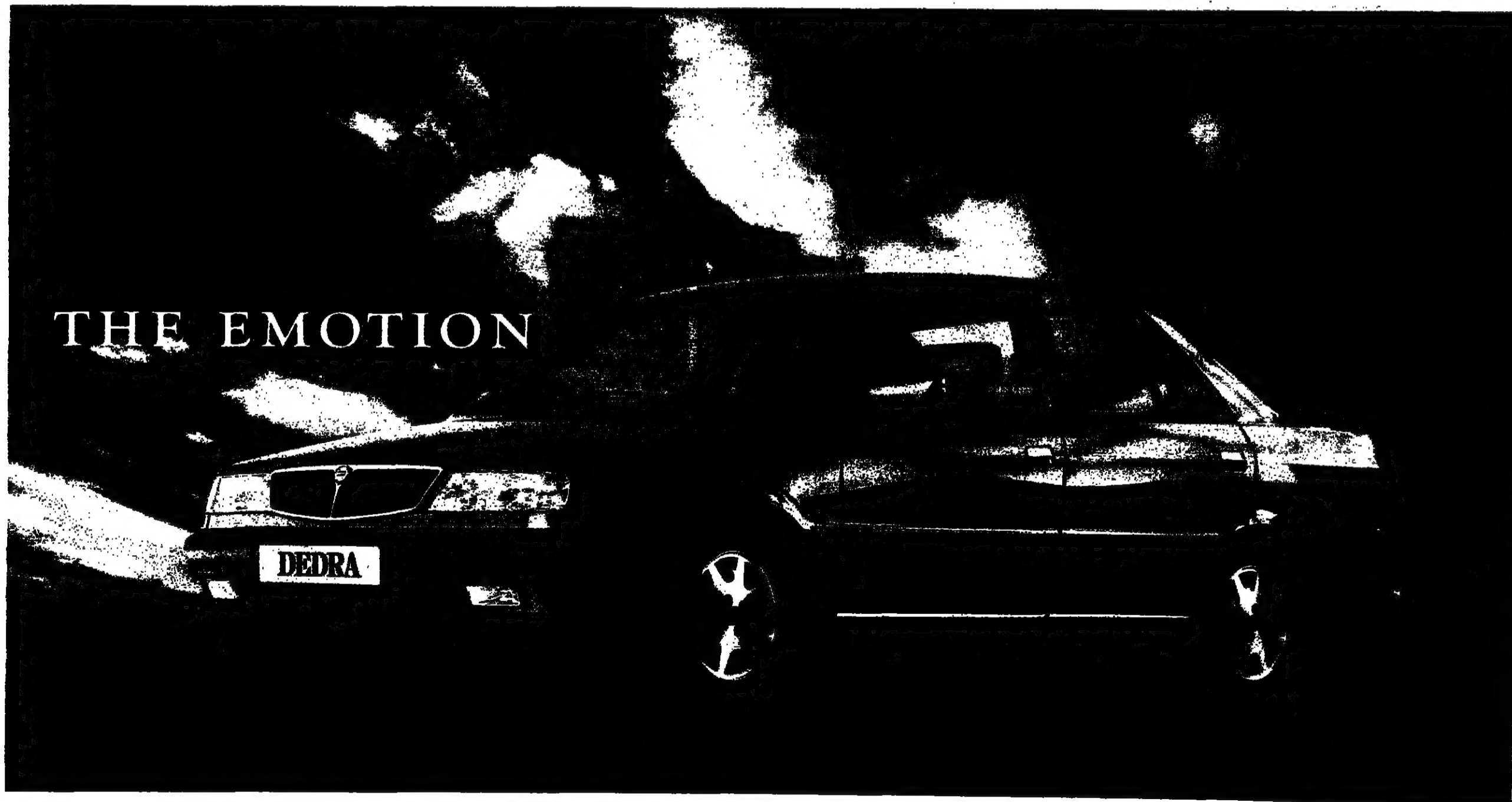
Council workers have painted school warning signs on the road outside 'Ovenhope infants' school at Keighley, West Yorkshire, eight years after it closed.

Ring changes

Sixteen new bells weighing between 5½ cwt and 2 tonnes arrived at St Martin's church in the Bull Ring shopping area of Birmingham yesterday.



Lady Blatch: facing tough opposition in the Lords



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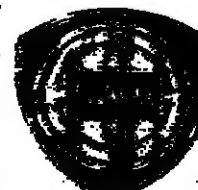
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New Zealand disgust as France honours Auckland bomber

From RICHARD LONG
IN WELLINGTON

NEW Zealanders reacted with outrage yesterday after France awarded Alain Mafart, the saboteur of the Greenpeace protest ship Rainbow Warrior, an honour — only two months after Michel Rocard, then the French prime minister, visited New Zealand and formally apologised for the 1985 bombing of the vessel.

Don McKinnon, the foreign affairs minister, said he was "appalled and disgusted" over the award to a man who had been convicted of manslaughter and jailed for his role in the sabotage. "He is a man who pleaded guilty in the New Zealand courts, was jailed in New Zealand, convicted of manslaughter in New Zealand, gets sold off by the last government and now gets an honour for what he did," he said.

David Lange, the former prime minister of New Zealand, who in 1985 described the bombing as an act of state-sponsored terrorism, said: "This confirms my view of France and of Mafart himself." Mike Moore, the opposition Labour party leader, said the honour to Mafart was insulting and arrogant and showed France believed it had the right to bomb the ship, and would do so again.

French embassy statements that the honour, a knight of the order of merit for distinguished service, was a commonplace medal awarded to all officers of Mafart's rank, did little to appease public feeling. The New Zealand government was astonished



Mafart sentenced to ten years for manslaughter and embarrassed as he made much of M Rocard's recent visit, described as a gesture to lay to rest the ghost of the Rainbow Warrior.

After a long period of strained relations, M Rocard formally apologised for the Rainbow Warrior incident at a state luncheon in Wellington, telling hundreds of guests: "Errors have been made in the past. France has done wrong. I have said that before and I say it again today."

Three weeks after this visit, New Zealand toned down its form of protest on French nuclear testing in the South Pacific. It maintained that the decision to protest at the start and finish of each test series, rather than after each individual test, was a procedural change only, and unconnected with M Rocard's visit.

French secret service agents, in an elaborate operation, sank the Rainbow Warrior in Auckland harbour in July 1985 before it could lead a protest flotilla to the French

nuclear testing grounds at Mururoa atoll. A crew member was killed.

While some of the agents escaped in a yacht and are believed to have been picked up at sea by a French submarine, Mafart and his co-agent, Dominique Priaur, were captured while attempting to leave the country by plane. Convicted of manslaughter, they were sentenced to ten years' jail, but Wellington capitulated to trade threats and under a United Nations-brokered agreement the agents were released into French custody. While they were supposed to remain in exile on the French South Pacific atoll of Hao, they were repatriated to Paris in breach of the agreement.

Russell Marshall, the New Zealand foreign affairs minister at the time of the bombing, said he was sure the award would not have been made to Mafart if M Rocard had not been replaced as prime minister by Edith Cresson. "He would know better than anyone how that would be received here."



Divine choice: a virgin girl with a monk at her side is put on display in Patan, near Kathmandu, to be ritually worshipped as a living goddess or "Kumari"

Rebels and army jockey for power in Salvador talks

From ALAN TOMLINSON IN SAN SALVADOR

A SIGN at the entrance to the Salvadoran village of San José de las Flores welcomed visitors to "territory under control of the National Army for Democracy: FMLN". The community claims to have been "liberated" by the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front.

Two weeks ago, as the Salvadoran government met guerrilla leaders in Mexico for their 18th round of United Nations-sponsored peace negotiations, troops marched into the village and tore down the sign. When local residents challenged them, the army tear-gassed the village and withdrew.

In the early years of the decade-long civil war, such an incident would have led to casualties. Today, as the two sides manoeuvre for advantage at the negotiating table, the confrontation serves to underline the two main obstacles to a ceasefire — the issues of rebel control over territory, and civilian control over an army with a notorious human rights record.

"There is absolutely no part of the country which is under

the control of the FMLN," Ernesto Altschul, vice-minister to the civilian president, Alfredo Cristiani, insisted. The only issue was the size and location of UN security zones in which the rebels would gather when a ceasefire was signed, he said.

The liberation front demands recognition of its claim to military dominance over more than a quarter of the country, arguing that government forces have never been able to maintain a presence in rebel strongholds for long. A guerrilla leader at an encampment in Cabañas province said the government and the armed forces "refuse to accept the reality that the country is divided in two parts".

The front has renounced Marxism, and says it is moving towards social democracy, but wants to ensure that it is safe to enter political life before coming down from the hills to join the democratic process. It seeks security guarantees to defend it from right-wing reprisals, and military reforms to prevent the army from returning to the days of the death squads.

Bogotá lifts state of siege

Bogotá — Colombia has lifted its seven-year state of siege, a day after the Medellín cocaine cartel announced that it was disbanding its military organisation. A decree signed by President Gaviria and his cabinet ended the regulations at midnight on Thursday, when Colombia's new constitution was to take effect.

Señor Gaviria declared: "We have left behind the state of siege, which was used to face up to violence... but was a source of discredit to our democracy."

The announcement came barely two weeks after the chief of the Medellín cartel, Señor Pablo Escobar, gave himself up to the authorities in exchange for a promise of leniency. The cartel, which is one of the world's largest drug-running operations, said on Wednesday that it was dissolving its military arm, apparently ending the drugs war which has killed hundreds of people since 1989.

The state of siege, imposed in April 1984, limited civil liberties and gave the president extraordinary powers to re-establish public order and ban strikes. (Reuters)

Bush confirms rise and rise of black right wing

America's black conservatives are enjoying political influence far beyond their numbers, writes Susan Ellicott from Washington

SOMEbody dropped a dead possum into the letterbox at nine-year-old Gary Frank's home when his family moved to a white working-class town in Connecticut. Attached was a brief, bloodstained note: "Niggers, you'll be next."

That was in 1961. Last year, Mr Frank, the son of a millworker and a graduate of Yale, became the first black Republican member of the US Congress in 58 years. A majority-white constituency, from the same town in which racism, 30 years earlier, had burnt a cross on his lawn and shot a neighbour's dog, thinking it was his, elected him with a five-point lead over a four-

term incumbent. Only then did his relatives decide to support a politician who dared to call himself a black conservative.



Perez, press secretary to Barbara Bush

term incumbent. Only then did his relatives decide to support a politician who dared to call himself a black conservative.

"You're a what?" Mr Frank recalls the family saying before the contest. Like many Americans, black and white alike, who remember the turmoil of the civil rights movement before desegregation in the South, they believed: "If you're a black, you're a liberal or a Democrat."

Black Republicans count for only a small fraction of conservatives in the United States today, but the nomination by President Bush, this week, of Clarence Thomas to the US Supreme Court has turned attention towards a political group with clout beyond its size. Prominent black intellectuals also hope Judge Thomas will highlight a neglected tradition as leaders argue over the role of government in helping Americans find economic suc-

cess and a political voice. According to historians, the debate has simmered since the turn of the century when the educator, Booker T. Washington, and the black nationalist, Marcus Garvey, argued for self-help against calls for group action through government assistance. Mr Washington's followers, among them Judge Thomas, say a legacy of liberal social programmes has created a section of black society unable to advance. They look at drug-abuse, crime and poverty statistics and question whether government help can ever be a substitute for the "traditional values" of family, education and individual achievement.

President Bush, anxious to woo a traditionally Democrat-voting bloc, has courted blacks to his side, among them Louis Sullivan, the health minister, who speaks often about his parents' guidance, and Anna Perez, Barbara Bush's press secretary. Mr Bush's housing secretary, Jack Kemp, has forged links with a black conservative to privatise subsidised government homes. During the Gulf war, Colin Powell, the Jamaican-born chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, emerged as a symbol of achievement for minorities.

Conventional civil rights figures are doing their best to play down the influence of black conservatives, whose numbers swelled as civil rights helped to build a black middle class in cities such as Atlanta and Washington. But black America as a monolith is now a "hopelessly backward" notion, says Joseph Perkins, a writer for the *San Diego Union*. He says that class has emerged as a larger determining force than race.

● Poll support: Most American blacks support Judge Thomas's nomination to the Supreme Court, even though nearly an equal number say he does not represent the views of most blacks, according to a poll published in *USA Today* yesterday. It showed 54 per cent of respondents approved of his nomination, 17 per cent disapproved, and 29 per cent did not know. (Reuters)

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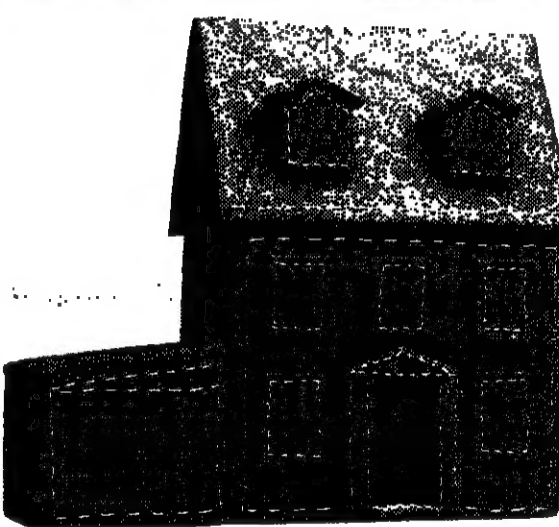
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African National Congress

Ramaphosa brings youthful skills to elderly leadership

From GAVIN BELL IN DURBAN

THE elderly leadership of the African National Congress was revitalised yesterday by the election of a dynamic young trade union leader to its third most senior post.

The overwhelming vote in favour of Cyril Ramaphosa, aged 38, as secretary-general presaged the elevation of many of his contemporaries in the anti-apartheid movement to an enlarged 90-member executive committee. Nelson Mandela, the deputy president, was elected unopposed as president, in succession to the ailing Oliver Tambo, who was given the honorary title of national chairman.

The ANC national conference defeated a challenge by Harry Gwala, a hardline communist from Natal, for the post of deputy president, according to it by a large margin to Walter Sisulu, the veteran "internal" leader. Mr Sisulu had been presented as a compromise candidate to prevent a struggle between militant and moderate factions for the position and was elected by 1,567 votes to 412.

Both Mr Mandela and Mr Sisulu received standing ovations from the 2,000 delegates, but the biggest cheers were for Mr Ramaphosa, who was carried shoulder-high from the

rear of the auditorium to take his place on the platform. He received 1,156 votes, to 450 for the intelligence chief, Jacob Zuma, and 371 for the 66-year-old incumbent, Alfred Nzo.

Mr Ramaphosa, general secretary of the powerful National Union of (black) Mineworkers, is regarded as a skilled negotiator and a moderate figure who commands respect on both sides of the racial divide. A trained lawyer, he has never aspired to high political office, preferring to devote his energies to improving the working and social conditions of black miners.

Popo Molefe, aged 39, a leader of ANC surrogate organisations in the 1980s, was a front-runner in elections for the post of deputy secretary-general, which were taking place last night. Many of his colleagues in the United Democratic Front, which rallied the anti-apartheid movement when most ANC leaders were in exile or prison, were expected to be voted on to the new executive committee. The elections confirmed widespread dissatisfaction with the present leadership, many of whom were accused of being autocratic and ignoring grass-

roots sentiments. The ANC is now poised to enter constitutional negotiations with Pretoria with renewed vigour, reflecting a judicious blend of youth and experience at the helm.

An anticipated clash between supporters of Thabo Mbeki, the director of foreign affairs, and Chris Hani, the chief of staff of the armed wing, was averted when both withdrew from the election for deputy president. Unity was thus preserved between the moderate and militant factions that represent, but delegates said that the ANC's continued alliance with the Communist party was a focus of sharp debate. Mr Mandela has made it clear he has no intention of ending the relationship, despite unease that it is losing the ANC support in the white, Coloured (mixed race) and Indian communities.

Stormin' through a phoney war of words

From CHARLES BRENNER IN NEW YORK

FROM the cafes of Amman to the back streets of Tunis, Iraq's sympathisers have been enjoying some bitter vindication. General Norman Schwarzkopf finally came out and admitted that America attacked Iraq purely as a service to Israel.

What is more, he ridiculed the performance of Arab troops in the coalition and said his aim had been to annihilate Iraq. The only trouble is that the general and everyone involved deny he ever said any such things.

The notorious "Schwarzkopf interview", now circulating in the Middle East and enshrined in official documents at the United Nations in New York, is in fact a text-book case of disinformation, the art of fabricating a plausible-sounding story then sowing it on fertile ground to discredit its subject, according to American officials. They assume an Iraqi intelligence service was responsible but some US-based Arabs are blaming the Israelis.

The general's alleged remarks were distributed in May, in Arabic, by the information office of the Palestine Liberation Organisation in Tunis. The PLO



Disinformin' Norman: "Interview" ridicules Arab Gulf war troops

presented them as a transcript of an interview by the US correspondent for Israeli army radio, saying it had monitored the Hebrew broadcast.

Stormin' Norman was alleged to have said America fought the war "for you, for Israel". Couched in an approximation of the general's bluff speech, it confirmed the worst suspicions of Iraq's friends. "The men endeavoured to destroy your enemy," he was quoted

to have said to the Israelis. As well as disparaging the Saudis, Syrians and Kuwaitis, he was quoted as saying that he planned to devote himself to political activity which included a close friendship with, and constant support for, Israel.

The PLO's American office passed a copy to the National Association of Arab Americans, a body that until recently numbered John Sununu, the White House chief of staff, among

its senior members. Its director then gave an English version to American journalists, who checked and found it was a fabrication, although a technically good one. "A disinformation story," said Commander John Jendro, a spokesman for the general. "A hoax. The interview never took place."

The Israeli correspondent also denied that she had conducted the interview. Khaled Saffouri, the information director of the Arab association, said he had been taken in by the interview. "I had no reason to believe it was a fake. It is cleverly done."

But by then it had assumed a life of its own and three weeks ago, Iraq's mission at the United Nations had it circulated to the security council by the office of the secretary-general. "It constitutes a confession setting forth the true purposes and objectives of the aggression," the mission said.

The state department denounced the move as Iraqi propaganda and instructed its embassies abroad to take steps to neutralise the tale. But in a field where paranoia and rumour often outweigh facts, the damage was done.

The Americans see the old handwork of the KGB in

the plot. The Iraqis, after all, were trained by the Soviet agency. Although American, British and many other intelligence services have done their share of disinformation, or black propaganda as it used to be known, the Kremlin has scored its most publicised hit. These go all the way back to the Zinoviev letter, fabricated by White Russians in Berlin in 1924 to discredit the Bolsheviks by calling on British Communists to rise.

The KGB has been successful in planting journalistic stories that cited authoritative "facts" to prove that the Korean Airlines flight 007, shot down by the Soviet Union in 1983, had been spying for the United States and also that the Americans had concocted the Aids virus to kill blacks. The last of these is still believed by many American blacks. PLO officials in New York now say if the Schwarzkopf interview was a fake, it must have been perpetrated by Israel or even America to blacken the PLO.

● Ankara: Turkey appears ready to accept proposals to base an allied rapid reaction force in the southeast of the country to protect Kurds in northern Iraq. (Reuters)

Man in the news

Tough negotiator who won respect

By GAVIN BELL

THE new face in the ANC leadership is smooth and hard. Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa is an articulate, soft-spoken character whose urbane manner masks skills as a tough negotiator that have gained the admiration of black workers and the respect of their employers.

As leader of the National Union of Mineworkers, Mr Ramaphosa has been largely instrumental in improving the conditions of black workers in an industry notorious for racial discrimination. In the process he has achieved a rare popularity across the spectrum of the anti-apartheid movement, which will be



Ramaphosa: an articulate champion of black miners

important in unifying its disparate elements.

A native of Soweto, Mr Ramaphosa was detained for almost a year under the terrorism act in 1974 for organising a university protest. After an uprising in Soweto in 1976, he was detained again for six months. He completed his articles, but before being admitted as an attorney he turned his back on private practice to become a legal adviser to the black trade union movement.

His appointment as general secretary of the newly-formed miners' union in 1982 presaged a series of national strikes and tough negotiations that led to vastly improved conditions for his members under new contracts. While the ANC was still banned, Mr Ramaphosa played a prominent role in anti-apartheid politics at national and community levels, tackling issues such as rent boycotts in Soweto.

A self-effacing figure, Mr Ramaphosa said only a few weeks ago that he had no intention of seeking high office in the ANC. Having been persuaded to change his mind, he can be expected to use his considerable influence to improve relations between the ANC and the trade unions.

South Africa frees British woman jailed for murder

From RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

MAUREEN Smith, a London-born woman who hired a black gardener to kill her husband, has been freed from prison in South Africa after serving nine years of a 20-year sentence.

Her release follows an announcement by President de Klerk earlier this week of remission of sentences for thousands of first-offence prisoners. She is expected to return to Britain within the next few days to be reunited with her father, Harry Mullicks, aged 80, a former

London insurance man. Mr Mullicks admitted after his daughter's trial in Johannesburg in 1982 that he had planned the murder because, he said, his son-in-law, Roger Smith, was trying to blackmail him.

Mrs Smith, now 47, Jack Ramogale, the family chauffeur, and the gardener, David Mnguni, were given death sentences, later commuted to prison terms of 20, 25 and 30 years. Ramogale and Mnguni have not so far been granted any remission of sentence.

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Milosevic, the promise-breaker, leads Serbia into isolation



Milosevic fanned the fires of ethnic rivalry

SERBIA has never been as alone or friendless as it is today under the rule of Slobodan Milosevic.

Back in March, 100,000 Serbs shouted on the streets of Belgrade "Down with Slobodan Milosevic", accusing him of maintaining communism, stifling the press and leading Serbia to international isolation. These were the same people who two years before had carried his portrait aloft. Only three months before many of them had voted for him.

If Mr Milosevic, the party leader, could have claimed to have the whole nation behind him in 1989, the election last December marked his decline, even though he emerged victorious. The slide in his fortunes

Once a skilful crowd pleaser, Slobodan Milosevic's miscalculations have propelled him on a downward slope, Dassa Trevisan reports from Belgrade

culminated in Tuesday's demonstrations in front of the Serbian parliament with tens of thousands calling for him to step down and for a caretaker "government of national salvation" to be established. Mothers of Serbian conscripts occupied parliament and the prime minister. "We have not borne our sons to die for Milosevic."

Mr Milosevic's initial advantage had been the gift of communicating with crowds. Now his public appearances are rare and he

speaks in short, repetitive platitudes. Instead of responding to worried mothers whose sons were trapped in Slovenia and demanded he should see them, Mr Milosevic stayed away.

In the beginning, he sensed the popular mood and went along with it; but no longer. His dogged insistence on communism and the command economy, while he has paid lip service to the market, and his whipping up of ethnic hostility, first against Albanians then against the Slovenes

and Croats, have bred support for separatism as well as the antagonism of those nations which have discarded communism.

The more he insisted on retaining the rigid federal structure, which inevitably meant Serbian domination, the more pressure for independence built up among Croats and Slovenes, and even among Muslims and Macedonians. Fear of Serbia and a communist-led Yugoslavia determined the determination of other republics. At the same time, Mr Milosevic's policies won him the support of the military hardliners.

He promised Serbs more prosperity. But it is said that living standards have been declining to the point where

pensioners are not receiving their frugal sums regularly and even minimum wages cannot be paid. This has led to strikes and increased the danger of social upheaval.

He also promised the return of Kosovo to Serbian control, but now the situation is worse than ever and Serbia is internationally accused of severe human rights violations; 1,700,000 Albanians in Kosovo are subject to police repression and are solidly behind their opposition leaders. Instead of dialogue with the Albanians, Mr Milosevic has severed all lines of communication, refusing to face realities or plan for the future. Keeping massive police forces there to maintain peace is proving extremely costly, and Serbia

cannot go on affording it.

His insistence that Yugoslavia should remain a federation, and his dictum that all Serbs must live in one state, suggesting an extension of Serbia's borders into Croatia and Bosnia, are largely responsible for the gradual escalation of Yugoslavia's political conflict.

But the cause of the present fighting was the move to block the election of Stipe Mesic to the presidency in May, Yugoslavia remained without a functioning presidency and, more seriously, without the collective commander-in-chief, so the army was able to slip from political control.

The army was acting on its own, relying on the General Staff of the High Command,

an institution which made its first public appearance in March, when again Mr Milosevic provoked a presidential conflict by withdrawing the Serbian representative, who was then the head of state, Borisav Jovic. His reputation as a reliable negotiating partner has been badly tarnished on several recent occasions when he broke his word to foreign diplomats or visitors.

The main thing Mr Milosevic shares with Yugoslavia's hardline generals is his attachment to communism, for most of the generals pressing for an end to separatism are convinced that all Yugoslavia's troubles stem from multiparty democracy.

EC freezes £600m aid amid rift on recognising rebels

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN THE HAGUE

EUROPEAN foreign ministers dispatched two more negotiating teams to Yugoslavia yesterday but failed to resolve increasingly obvious differences inside the European Community over the Balkan turmoil.

A compromise statement said that if the shaky ceasefire were broken once more, community governments would meet again to consider their next move. The German government interprets this formula to mean that the EC will recognise Slovenia and Croatia as independent if the Yugoslav army moves against the republics.

Other governments, led by France, still oppose any threat of recognition. Roland Du-

mas, the French foreign minister, talked darkly of the danger of Yugoslav republics falling under "foreign influence" — an implicit criticism of Austria's support for Slovene independence. He urged his colleagues "not to throw oil in the fire" raging in Yugoslavia.

The ministers also established a community arms embargo and called on other countries not to sell arms anywhere inside Yugoslavia. The emergency meeting also froze £600 million of aid promised to Yugoslavia, almost all of the largest aid package which the EC has ever given to an individual state. "We do realise that the old-style Tito Yugoslavia is fin-

ished," said Douglas Hogg, minister of state at the Foreign Office.

A team of officials that left for Yugoslavia yesterday and a trio of ministers who leave today will tell the Slovene authorities to withdraw from the border posts which they occupied after Slovenia and Croatia declared independence from the federal state. The first of the EC's diplomatic missions came home a week ago after persuading the republics to "suspend" their moves towards independence. But Slovene officials and troops are still manning the border posts between the republic and the southern border of Austria.

Hans van den Broek, the Dutch foreign minister, made clear yesterday that the community missions would ask the Slovenes to suspend the "implementation of the declarations of independence" and to return to the positions of June 25. On that date, the federal authorities controlled Yugoslavia's external borders and few, if any, practical steps had been taken by the republics to assert their autonomy.

The two EC teams intend to prepare the way for a group of 30 to 40 unarmed observers to monitor the ceasefire in the republics. Although the preparation for the monitoring group has been entrusted to the EC, the mixed group of military and civilian observers may be drawn from any of the 35 nations who belong to the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, which decided to establish a monitoring group.

Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the German foreign minister, said afterwards that the community explicitly threatened the federal government with recognition of the republics if the Yugoslav army misbehaved again. However, only the Dutch supported his wish to do so. Gianni De Michelis, the Italian foreign minister, said afterwards that the meeting had given "great help" to the Yugoslav government.

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Slovenes decide to avoid showdown

BY ROGER BOYES AND TIM JUDAH

SLOVENIA backed off yesterday from the expected showdown with the Yugoslav army, freeing prisoners and announcing the demobilisation of thousands of its territorial troops.

Apparently eager to be seen to be defusing the tension, Slovenia agreed to talk to the federal government, along with the European Community, about control of its frontiers, but it was still defying presidential demands to give up border posts and withdraw all its units.

Croatia, the other secessionist republic, said it would fight if Yugoslav army tanks crossed into its territory on their way to crush Slovenia's independence bid. In Ljubljana, Slovenia's leadership has given some ground to the presidency, but it seems the Slovenes republic will have to yield much more to satisfy the army.

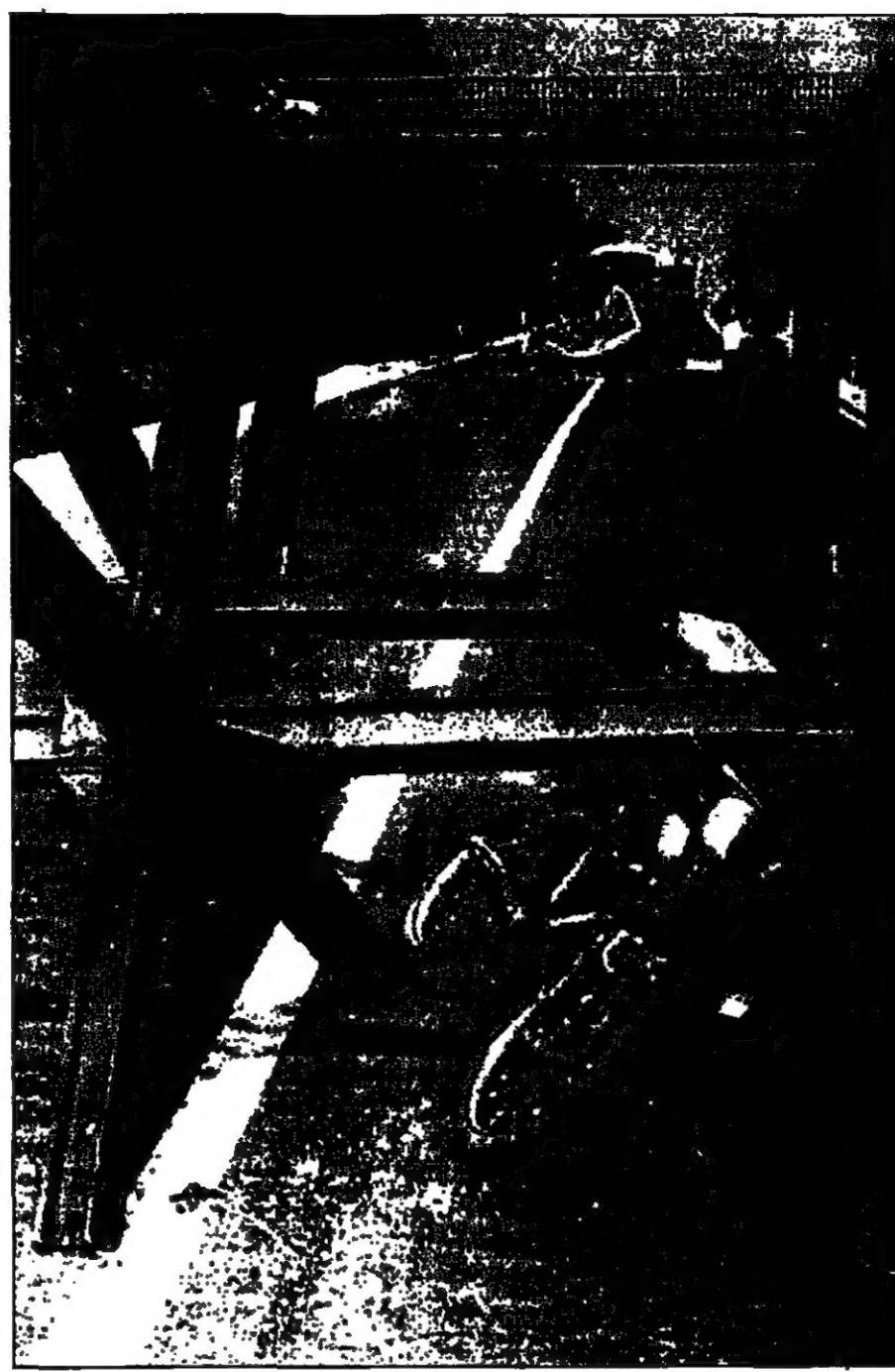
Dusan Plut, a member of the Slovene presidency who has been negotiating with the fifth army command, said that barricades had been removed from outside army barracks,

allowing the besieged soldiers to receive food and other supplies. Many of the 2,316 prisoners of war were also handed over to the Red Cross and waited for trains to take them home.

Through the gates of Ljubljana fairground some of the prisoners, who have been given civilian clothes by the Red Cross, could be seen trying on second-hand shoes out of a cardboard box. They have been given the choice of being taken home by the Red Cross, staying in Slovenia or being collected by their parents.

Despite these concessions, the Slovenes were sticking firm on the main points of their row with the Yugoslav presidency. The Slovene flag still fluttered and Slovene soldiers continued to man the republic's 27 international border crossing points with Austria, Hungary and Italy yesterday.

Dr Plut said yesterday that the issue of the frontiers could only be settled in tripartite talks, with the involvement of the European Community.



Road sense: a Slovene child slides his bicycle under the anti-tank barriers which block the main highway between the cities of Zagreb and Ljubljana

Mesic sees way out of turmoil

Bona — Yugoslavia can find a peaceful solution to its troubles and does not need to use the army to retake control of its northern border, President Mesic said in an interview released yesterday.

But the chairman of the Croatian parliament, Zarko Domljan, said in a Zagreb newspaper that his republic expected, and was prepared for, confrontation with the federal army. Mr Mesic, himself a Croat, told *Bild* that Ljubljana and Belgrade could compromise by letting local Slovene forces man frontier posts but pay the duties collected to Belgrade.

"Slovenia and Croatia do not have to break away," Mr Mesic added. "It is necessary to restructure Yugoslavia, then there will be no more reason for war." (Reuters)

Captive conscripts wait to go home

FROM TIM JUDAH IN LJUBLJANA

SLOVENE authorities were preparing yesterday to release Yugoslav army prisoners of war captured during the recent fighting. According to the Slovene Red Cross, 2,316 soldiers were being held.

At Ljubljana jail, about 100 anxious teenage conscripts were waiting for buses to take them to the station and up to 300 more were being held in a building which is part of Ljubljana fairground. Most of the young conscripts held in the jail, who came from several Yugoslav nationalities, were too frightened to answer questions, but they had clearly been well treated.

Space had been made for them in the prison by clearing out drunks and petty criminals. The POWs wore civilian clothes, including T-shirts and training shoes provided by the

Red Cross. Officials indicated that the soldiers, although they had not deserted, had given themselves up when challenged.

One Croat who surrendered when his tank was surrounded said that when he got home he intended to join his republic's national guard: "I don't want to fight Slovenes or Serbian generals, but I do want to fight for Croatia."

In a cell by himself a Slovene non-commissioned officer called Vlado, aged 48, who had been serving in the Yugoslav army and had given himself up without resistance, said: "I was very scared because my son is serving in the Slovene territorial defence forces." Of his future, he said: "If things go OK I'll stay here, but if not I'll have to go abroad, maybe to Canada."

Nuclear power plant makes tempting target

FROM ROGER BOYES IN KRASO

SLOVENES are bracing this weekend for a renewed air attack, but none more so than the locals of Kraso who live next to Yugoslavia's only nuclear power plant.

The power station, which squats alone in a green field off the road to Zagreb, has been switched off, but a heavy bombardment could still release a devastating cloud of radiation in central and southern Europe — a Balkan Chernobyl.

There were fears for the plant weeks before the war began. Serbian extremists — the nationalist Cetniks based in southern Croatia — have threatened to send commandos there to mine the plant. The point presumably would be to destroy a major source of electricity to Croatia, which is so robustly hated by the ethnic Serbs.

Nobody took this threat very seriously. However, when the Yugoslav army's jet fighters started to strafe Slovene forces near by, it was plain that the nuclear reactor was at risk.

The plant, praised by leading architects, has a big white cupola which is built to resist a big impact. Slovene officers say that several missiles could break the outer coat of the reinforced concrete container, whose maximum thickness is 32mm at the bottom and 20mm at the top.

The Engineering Research Institute in Ljubljana says that a penetration of the outer coat could severely damage the reactor and make contact with the nuclear fuel. That is why the plant has been switched off and an alert has been passed to the International Atomic Energy Authority.

Slovene environment officials have been reassuring Austria, which would probably be the first Western country to be affected if there were a nuclear explosion. But even these officials admit that there can be no fully fledged guarantee of safety if there was an air raid near by. More

dramatically, Slovene Greens estimate that 100,000 people would be endangered if the plant were hit.

Dr Dusan Plut, leader of the Slovene Greens and a member of the Slovene presidency, says that the water basin which stores nuclear fuel is stored in very vulnerable to air attack. The sides of the basin are barely 44ft thick, while the roof of the basin is prefabricated, made of steel and filled by tin. A direct hit on this basin, even accidentally, would trigger a tragedy.

Slovenia does not control its airspace and has only a few anti-aircraft guns. If Yugoslav jets collided or misjudged their flight paths as they made for the neighbouring Slovene airfield of Cerklje, then the power plant could be hit with all the devastating effects of Chernobyl.

The plant, completed in 1981, is jointly owned by Slovenia and Croatia. Indeed they are still arguing about how to repay a \$1 billion loan taken out to pay for the construction.

The Yugoslav air force might thus be attracted to the idea of hitting the economy of both breakaway republics at one stroke. Certainly Dr Plut maintains that the second phase of the Yugoslav army action provides for a direct military attack on Kraso plant.

The switching off of the plant, which has been carried out according to IAEA rules, is supposed partly to reduce its attractiveness as a target for the Yugoslav bombers. A passing irony is that the Greens of Slovenia have been campaigning for a year to have the plant — which has relatively up-to-date Westinghouse technology — closed down.

Because the power station was half the property of Croatia, there was never any hope of success. Now the Yugoslav air force has forced at least a temporary closeness.



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Trapped by hatred's invisible frontiers

FROM PHILIP JACOBSON IN PREKOPIA, CROATIA

THE stone-faced Croatian militiamen who check every car at the bridge over the Glinja river know the foreign journalists they stop there are interested in the Serbian enclave that begins a few miles down the road. They greatly resent these visits, muttering about the Cetniks, Serbian "terrorists" who want to murder every Croat and seal their land.

When armed Serbs wave the same cars down at their own barricades, they glare at the Zagreb newspapers on the back seat and demand to know why nobody tells the truth about the Ustashi, the "Croat oppressors steeped in the blood of their people". It is advisable to listen to their warnings not to try returning to "enemy" territory by the same route. As

the temper of ethnic violence mounts ominously, it goes without saying that neither Croat nor Serb will easily risk crossing these invisible front lines of ancient hatred and present fear.

In the areas of Slavonia, where the two communities rub against each other in tense little villages separated by the length of a country lane, both sides have now retreated behind the flags, the symbols and the memories that are nourishing the ugliest of divides.

In this ethnic minefield, simply driving a car with the wrong number plates can be hazardous for Croats, anything with Belgrade's DG tag is a provocation, for the Serbs the ZG of Zagreb means the foe, especially

now that CRO stickers of independent Croatia are beginning to replace those of Yugoslavia. Visiting journalists now routinely swap vehicles according to their destination. There is lively competition for places in those bearing a foreign registration: the more prominent, the better.

Flags are another crucial emblem of identity, in all senses, for these two communities — run up on every pole, draped above front doors, dangling from telephone wires and the wing mirrors of buses. The red, white and blue stripes of federal Yugoslavia flutter everywhere in the Serbian enclave, never without the red star that people in other republics besides Croatia have taken to removing in

protest against almost half a century of communist — and Serbian — domination.

For the Serbs of Slavonia, that star has the most potent associations, and never more so than now. It was the emblem of Tito's partisans during the second world war, when their parents were fighting and dying in a merciless struggle against the pro-Nazi Croats. The sectarian border line begins whenever that flag disappears, to be replaced by the version Croats adopted a year ago, proudly incorporating their ancient coat of arms in place of the red star. It last flew over the forces of the Ustashi.

To a middle-aged businessman from Macedonia, with close links to both communities, the present

obsession of Serb and Croat alike with their symbols of separation can be explained only by Yugoslavia's fractured and bloodstained history. "Do you know that phrase, tribes with flags? That is all we are here, which is why no Croat will ever believe that the army can stay neutral forever because it has so many Serbian officers."

It also helped explain, he suggested, why the Serbian minority was profoundly shocked by the Croatian parliament's decision to rename Zagreb's imposing Place of the Victory over Fascism and remove street signs commemorating partisan heroes. "That was an act of tremendous symbolism on both sides, for completely opposing reasons."

Russia puts Gorbachev treaty hopes in jeopardy

From MARY DEBEVSKY IN MOSCOW

THE hopes of President Gorbachev going to the Group of Seven summit in London with an agreed blueprint for the new Soviet Union in his briefcase ran into serious difficulties yesterday when the Russian Federation's parliament expressed grave misgivings about the latest draft of the new union treaty and demanded extensive changes.

The Russian parliament was considering the supposedly final draft of the treaty for the first time since it was passed to the republics for approval two weeks ago. A formal resolution listing the required amendments was submitted to parliament by the acting chairman, Russian Khabulov.

Approved in principle with only minor changes, the resolution could delay the passage of the treaty for weeks, if not months. The proposed amendments affect almost every issue of principle in relations between the centre and the republics.

One conservative member of parliament, Sergei Baburin, described the resolution as nothing less than "an invitation to the funeral of the Soviet Union". A radical deputy later alluded to Mr Baburin's comment, saying that "the funeral of the Soviet Union in its present form is exactly what is needed".

During yesterday's debate, Boris Yeltsin, the Russian president, intervened briefly to reveal the strength of the federation's hand, saying that most of the Russians' objections were shared by the other eight republics involved in the treaty negotiations.

The meeting was apparently called by Mr Gorbachev in an attempt to speed up final approval for the treaty. The reasons for Russia's objections were set out in a report from the parliament's legislative committee, which is chaired by Sergei Shakhrai, a Yeltsin ally.

The report was issued to deputies along with the draft resolution. Russia's chief objections concern the status of the former autonomous republics inside the federation, the proposed tax system, the jurisdiction of enterprises on Russian territory, foreign trade and customs arrangements.

A further and no less significant objection emerged during the discussion in the form of a demand for Russia to have a say in central military spending. The most intractable of the problems concerns the status of the former autonomous republics and regions within the federation.

These 16 mini-republics, all of which have declared themselves sovereign, would be admitted to the new union both within Russia and on the basis of equality with Russia, leaving jurisdiction between Russia and its sub-regions undefined. Mr Shakhrai's legislative committee reported that this would "lead to the de facto and de jure disintegration of the Russian Federation as a single state".

Mr Yeltsin and representatives of non-autonomous regions want the former "autonomies" to be regarded as an integral part of Russia, so that Russia has to be their intermediary with the centre. Underlying their demand is the suspicion that the centre wants the "autonomies" to be in a position where they could undermine decisions taken by the Russian president, parliament and government.

President Gorbachev also wants each republic to collect two taxes, one for the republic's needs, the other for the centre. Mr Yeltsin has said that he will not sanction such a system.



Water board: four Austrians from the Harberg divers' club sitting on the floor of their local swimming pool for a game of "Take it easy" in an attempt to win a place in the Guinness Book of Records. They intend to play for 38 hours, beating the previous underwater best by 120 minutes

Kiev protest for Kremlin 'tsar'

From ROBERT SEELY IN KIEV

PRESIDENT Gorbachev ran into Ukrainian nationalist protests yesterday as he welcomed Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, for talks near the republic's capital, Kiev.

Several hundred demonstrators, most of them young, gave the Soviet leader a rowdy reception as the two leaders drove down Kiev's main street. When the two men stopped to meet the crowd, protesters booed and chanted "Ukraine without Moscow" and "Down with Gorbachev". About 600 demonstrators had turned out at the airport, waving Ukrainian flags; one banner read "Tsar Gorbachev is violating the sovereignty of the Ukraine".

Mr Gorbachev met Herr Kohl in a secluded dacha for a final session of talks before the Soviet leader's visit to London to address the leaders of the Group of Seven industrialised nations. Yesterday's discussions were expected to amount to little more than a "moral fund-raiser" for Mr Gorbachev in his bid to attract Western aid.

The meeting has been played down in the Soviet press, although there has been speculation, probably only wishful thinking, that Germany will be willing to act as a guarantor for credits for the Soviet economy. The two leaders could scarcely have found a more peaceful place for Herr Kohl to advise the Soviet leader against expecting substantial aid — a dacha in an ancient village ten miles from Kiev.

Mr Gorbachev's plans for a revived Soviet Union appear to be in tatters. He had hoped to fly to London with the union treaty signed by all the republics who supported his pact in April. His trip may instead become a damage-limitation exercise. He carries with him the support of a minority of republics.

Bundesrat to stay in Bonn

From IAN MURRAY IN BONN

GERMANY'S upper house, the Bundesrat, voted yesterday to stay in Bonn, for the time being at least, rather than to follow the government and Bundestag to Berlin.

The Bundesrat, an advisory body made up of 68 representatives from the Länder (state) governments, voted by 38 to 30 to review the situation later.

The proposal was backed by nine of the 16 states, among them Berlin, which is only too happy to see its former rival retain some of the less important federal bodies in order to reduce the amount of work that will have to be done to make the capital functional as a centre of government.

The need to remove asbestos from the Reichstag building and to rebuild it, as well as the necessary offices for a parliament, will take at least four years.

Germans bridge telephone gap

By IAN MURRAY

THE long wait for a telephone call to eastern Germany ended at midnight. That was when the first of 26,000 new fibre optic lines linking the united country came into operation, to the indescribable relief of businesses, families and journalists.

The fall of the Berlin Wall marked the end of east Germany's political isolation. The fibre optic breakthrough last night marked the end of the communications isolation, which has made integration into the Western world extra difficult.

The communist regime cut the country off from the outside world by installing only a tiny number of external lines. The fewer the lines out, the easier it was for the Stasi secret police to monitor them and the harder it was for dissidents to communicate.

This sniping was compounded by the fact that 80 per cent of what telephones there were in the east were party lines, shared with at least one other subscriber.

The difficulty of getting a call was so great that the spokesman at the French embassy in the east often used to use a phone box on the western side of Checkpoint Charlie as an office because it was quicker than waiting for a line. The end of the Wall made line congestion between east and west even worse because every day tens of thousands of Germans tried to speak to friends and family who had not been able to talk to them for years.

People would get up in the small hours to make a call in the hope, usually vain, of getting a line. The most congested lines of all have been between the two halves of Berlin. Messengers go all day from the west Berlin city hall to the east Berlin city hall because it is quicker than trying to telephone.

SS man fit to go on trial

Bonn — Stuttgart court ruled yesterday that Josef Schwannberger, aged 79, was physically fit to stand trial for the murder of 50 Jews and involvement in killing more than 3,500 others while he was a member of the SS in charge of forced labour camps in Poland between 1941 and 1944 (Ian Murray writes).

The court rejected a defence plea that he was too frail to appear, but agreed hearings should last no longer than two hours throughout the case, which is expected to continue for at least four months.

Premier held

Islamabad — The Pakistan government has arrested Kashmir's rebellious prime minister, Muntaz Hussain Rathore, after he annulled regional elections which he said were rigged to defeat his party. An official said Mr Muntaz had been flown to Islamabad in an army helicopter. (Reuters)

Drugs haul

Paris — French police seized drugs worth an estimated street value of £200,000 in a raid on the headquarters of Hell's Angels this week. Sixty-two pounds of cannabis and 1.6lb of cocaine, as well as a cache of money and about 20 firearms, were found in the motorcycle gang's private hang-out.

Jungle protest

Kuala Baram, Malaysia — Nine environmentalists from six nations, including Britain, were arrested after chaining themselves to loading cranes to protest against the logging of tropical forests. Activists boarded barges anchored in the Baram river to draw attention to the destruction of Sarawak's rain forests. (AP)

Outback pinta

Darwin — The government of Australia's parched Northern Territory is planning to build a brewery to slake the Outback thirst. Prospective names for the brew include Crocodile Dundee, the film that put the territory on the map, and Cyclone biter. (Reuters)

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YOU'RE BETTER OFF TALKING TO BARCLAYS

Clifford Longley

Catholics could show us the real meaning of an EC buzzword

John Major plunged deeper into the thicket of Euro-jargon after Luxembourg by warring off the evils of "subsidiarity". Clearly he expected everybody to know what he meant. That would be surprising. Nevertheless, subsidiarity is now the smartest word in the Catholic lexicon, because it is programmed to find its precise target. It is weighty because it is papal.

Words which become central to political arguments have sooner or later to be pinned down and cut open. The literal origin of "subsidiarity" tells only of the Roman custom of stationing legions abroad; but the word found its way to its present usage through the Catholic church, in a section of theology called "social teaching". Subsidiarity is just one piece that has worked its way to the surface on its own: there is much more treasure below the surface.

A readable book on Catholic social teaching for the general market is urgently needed, and the Catholic Bishops' Conference would do well to take such a project in hand. Primarily it would be a job of translation, for all the source material is there. Here, for instance, is an extract from an official church document to be used in seminars. It needs to be translated from Vaticanese into ordinary English vernacular terms:

"Subsidiarity... protects the human person, local communities and 'intermediate bodies' from the danger of losing their legitimate autonomy. The church is attentive to the application of this principle by reason of the very dignity of the person, respect for what is most human in the organisation of social life, and the safeguarding of the rights of peoples in relations between individual societies and universal society... An ordered society... is founded on the structures and organisations of society comprised not only of individual free persons, but also of intermediate societies which are integrated into higher units, beginning with the family and arriving, through local communities, professional associations, regions, and national states, at supranational bodies and the universal society..."

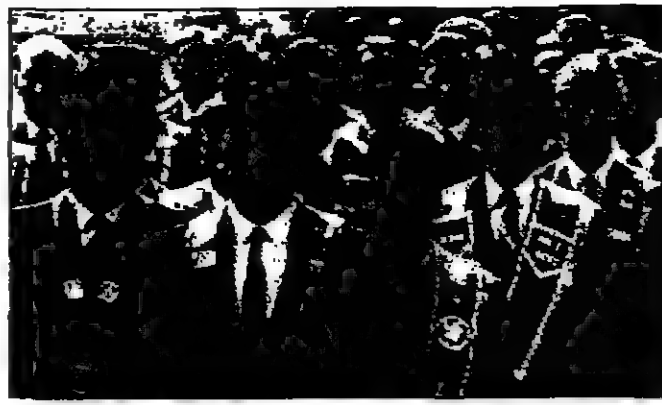
Racial to subsidiarity - and encoded here - is a sense that societies have a natural shape, when they can maximise "what is most human" and are best equipped to protect "the rights of peoples". Distorting that shape is wrong, because it suppresses humanity and the rights of peoples. Societies have a "being", just as individuals do. Distort a human being, and it hurts. Likewise human societies, as the peoples of Eastern Europe know too well.

Implicit in all this is opposition to centralism. "In many nations the state is transformed into a huge administrative machine which invades all areas of life and drags man into a state of fear and anxiety causing his depersonalisation," says the document. And if the principle applies to states, it is quite legitimate to alter "state" to "superstate" or "federation", for use in Brussels.

In internal British political debate, such argument from principle is unusual, and the authority of the Catholic church counts for little (though its evident good sense may commend it). In arguments about the future shape of the European Community, however, most of those we are arguing with pay at least lip-service to these principles already, and will not demand that they be substantiated. If Britain is to be at the heart of Europe on terms it can live with, we will have to learn this language fast, and turn it to our own advantage. But some tuition would help - and what else is a church for, if not to teach its own teaching?

Britain has only two options in Northern Ireland: direct rule or withdrawal, argues Conor Cruise O'Brien

Is patience running out?



Orange march: intransigence has long blocked progress

Orange march: intransigence has long blocked progress

reason why Northern Ireland remains in the United Kingdom is that a majority of the population of the province (the Unionists) want it to remain so. But if the Unionists are making the province ungovernable, then Britain can credibly declare that they are thereby making the union unworkable, and the way to withdrawal, amid general approval, lies open.

If the objective is British withdrawal, then an attempt at an imposed solution is logically the next move. But although some individual policy-makers may indeed be thinking along these lines (and I suspect that Peter Brooke may be among them), the cabinet has almost certainly not approved any such agenda. The decision to withdraw or not would have to be taken by the cabinet and it might well refuse.

The Wilson government was offered a similar opportunity by the collapse of the Sunningdale Agreement, but did not take it. Anyhow, the cabinet is quite likely to be considering, fairly

soon, proposals for an imposed solution. Ministers should not take such a decision without also deciding what to do about Unionist resistance to an imposed solution. If the agreed policy in the face of such opposition is to prepare for withdrawal, then the decision to try to impose a solution makes sense. As an Irishman, I would regret a decision to withdraw, because I know that withdrawal would be followed by civil war in Ireland. But I can understand that a British government might decide that an Irish civil war might be less undesirable than the probable consequences of remaining indefinitely in Northern Ireland.

Unless Britain intends to withdraw, no imposed solution should be attempted. The real options in Northern Ireland are just two: either continued direct rule or withdrawal. By constantly seeking some attractive but non-existent option in between, successive governments have given the impression that they crave withdrawal, even while they reluctantly stay. That is an important part of the political culture in which the Provisional IRA has flourished for more than 20 years.

American actors may jump on their political hobbyhorses but the public pays no heed, says Charles Bremner

Cinema audiences in America have been flocking to absorb political messages over the past few days, although they probably do not see it that way. In *Terminator 2*, they are watching Arnold Schwarzenegger repeat his role as a "cyborg", the part that transformed him from Austrian body-builder into an American star. Equally popular, despite criticism from the critics, is *Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves*, Hollywood's latest take on the medieval bandit.

Arnold's fans know they are in for \$100 million worth of technokilling in the interests of saving the planet from future dictatorship. Robin Hood's patrons go to revel in the latest jaunt by Kevin Costner, the current heart-throb hero. The audiences are interested in having a good time, but the stars hope something of their ideology will rub off.

For Costner, the film is a chance to celebrate his agenda of liberal, "politically correct" issues. His Robin is a caring, ecologically sensitive champion of minority rights. Along with his wife Arab and a feminist Maid Marian, he puts paid to a Sheriff of Nottingham who is not just a greedy thug, but a polluter and date rapist to boot.

Schwarzenegger, who belongs to the much smaller club of Hollywood Republicans, demonstrates American resolve, a one-robot guarantor of Yankee liberties, a more lethal version of John Wayne. As the film opened this week, Schwarzenegger, who campaigned for the president in 1988 on the slogan that "George Bush is the real Terminator", made it known that he was thinking of a deeper role in politics for himself.

American actors with political aspirations are hardly a novelty, but with another presidential

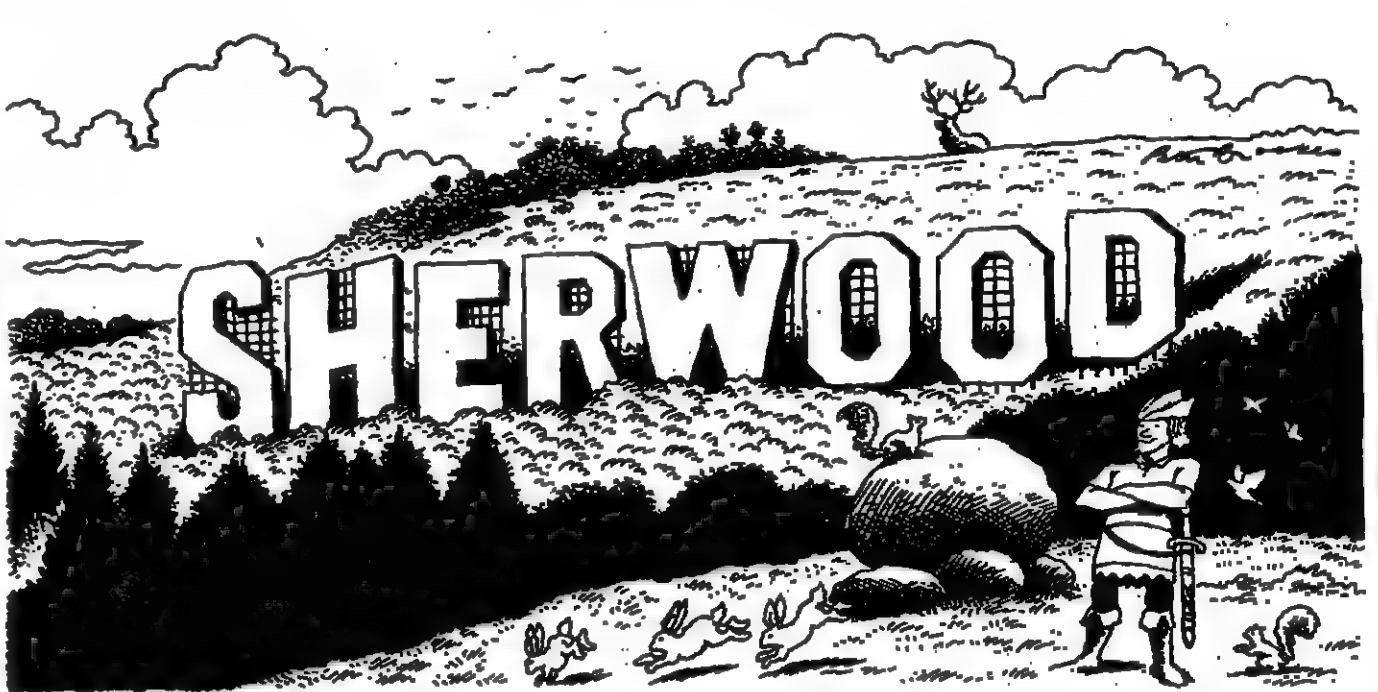
campaign on the horizon, their pronouncements are again attracting attention, raising old questions about how they influence ideology and the vote. Since politicians are more reviled than ever, and stars more revered, it may seem that the entertainment world alone can dictate the outcome of elections. But if this were the case, America would have a Democratic White House and probably a left-wing one, given the ideology of the Hollywood establishment.

Take foreign policy. *Rambo* notwithstanding, much of Hollywood's recent output has retained the world view born in the Vietnam era, in which good, usually Third World, countries are threatened by the machinations of a wicked Uncle Sam. Such thinking was particularly productive when it came to Latin America, where a string of recent films, such as *Under Fire*, *Missing* and (most recently) *Hanana* have catalogued the imagined evils of America in Nicaragua, Chile and Cuba. The last of these, starring Robert Redford, amounted to a romantic paean to Hollywood's favourite dictator, Fidel Castro. Few people watched it, and earlier this year it crashed into the annals of film flops.

Musing over the failures of recent films promoting a left-wing view, the critic Richard Greener concluded that Hollywood's moguls are prepared to humour their bankable stars with radical "foreign policy" vehicles in the hope that their celebrity alone would make hits. Tom Cruise did just that for Oliver Stone's anti-Vietnam War film *Platoon*. Costner may also assume it is the star of Stone's forthcoming account of the Kennedy assassination as a right-wing conspiracy.

At home, the liberal showbiz ideology has been out of time

Filmgoers vote with their feet



with the country at large for a long time. In the America depicted in film and television, the rich are usually unrepentant, big corporations are conspiratorial, the military are absurd and homosexuals use sympathetic. (Three out of four Americans still tell pollsters that homosexuality is wrong.) A new book, *Watching America*, by Robert Lickner, argues that the country is unwittingly being indoctrinated by the creative community of New York and Los Angeles. However, it seems more likely that the ideology passes the viewers by or backfires, as it did in *Dallas* and *Dynasty*. The unprincipled J.R. Ewing may have been intended as a villain, but he turned into a role model for the 1980s.

If Tinseltown's politics have in the past failed to translate into effective propaganda, the current generation of actors seems intent on reversing the record. In the pre-war days, stars were not supposed to have political views, lest they sully their broad appeal. It was the writers who were the communists and leftists, though

they rarely let it show in their output. Celebrities began campaigning for candidates in the 1940s, when Orson Welles stumped for Franklin Roosevelt, and then in 1952 Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall took to the trail for Adlai Stevenson.

Not until the 1970s and the emergence of the generation of Robert Redford, Jane Fonda and Warren Beatty did the stars begin to believe that the power of celebrity conferred political legitimacy, and superior wisdom. This coincided with the demise of the studio system and the emergence of actors as independent agents. Now, almost every star has an issues adviser and can economise on everything from nuclear power to Slovenian independence.

Meryl Streep can be found lecturing Congress on pesticides, while on the other side of the political fence Charlton Heston pitches on television for the patriotic right to own a gun. Meet a star for an interview and more often than not he or she will

insist on "addressing issues" rather than trivial stuff about careers and private life. Even Sylvester Stallone, he of *Rocky* and *Rambo*, has recast himself as a socially conscious intellectual.

Hollywood provides essential funds for campaigns from both parties. Much of it flows through the quieter channels of the moguls, who, as they always did, need the continued goodwill of Washington for their industry, and often give judiciously to both parties. On their side, political candidates, particularly Democrats, troop like pilgrims to Hollywood and jump through ever more humiliating hoops to win the moral and financial support of moguls and stars. In *The Power and the Glory*, a new book on the phenomenon, Ronald Brownstein concludes that Hollywood has not trivialised politics. Politicians, the disgraced public and the demands of television for abbreviated debate have all "lowered the level of discussion to a point where stars can more easily participate".

However, the politicians do not

like stars who go beyond burnishing their image to peddling their own theories. In 1988, Michael Dukakis travelled across the country with an entourage of second-rank stars, but infuriated Hollywood by ignoring their policy advice. Some stars, notably Warren Beatty and Jane Fonda, are also considered too tainted for personal endorsement.

The feeling is mutual. Many celebrities believe in their superiority to individual candidates, now prefer to campaign for themes, such as the environment and abortion rights, rather than commit themselves to flawed individuals who might lose, such as Gary Hart or Michael Dukakis. But even at home in California, all the campaigning of the stars failed to push through last year's Big Green referendum which would have imposed radical controls on the environment. So there is good reason to believe that Hollywood politics have only marginal influence, and audiences will continue to ignore the issues and flock in for the entertainment.

...and moreover

MATTHEW PARRIS

Walking down the promenade at Blackpool recently, I was hailed by a man in a stall. He was selling not donkey rides but raffle tickets in aid of a multiple sclerosis research and support society, A.R.M.S. The first prize was a new Ford Fiesta. I stopped.

"Haven't I seen you somewhere before?" the man asked. He was clearly an accomplished salesman.

Still, it was a good cause. Having a couple of friends with MS, I agreed with him that some illnesses seemed to interest society more than others. The uninteresting ones, like MS, though rather a problem for the sufferer, somehow attract less of the synchronised sympathising which characterises modern British concern.

This attitude is mindless. Your average *Guardian* reader would be horrified by any suggestion that someone who has picked up HIV through unprotected sex had only himself to blame. Yet confront the liberal conscience with a smoker who has contracted lung cancer, and "serves him right" will lie just beneath the surface of the response.

I bought a ticket for the MS raffle. It cost 50p. The man gave me my slip and I walked on.

And thought: "A new Ford Fiesta. Quite a prize."

And then: "I wonder what my chances are?"

"Statistically," I thought, "pretty slim. But then I'm lucky. It would in no way surprise me if I should soon be the owner of a new Ford Fiesta."

I don't need a Ford Fiesta. This struck me while boarding the train for London at Blackpool North. I don't need a car at all in London. In Derbyshire I have a car already. "What," I asked myself as the train pulled away, "let I do with my Ford Fiesta? Should I face it another car would be surplus to my requirements."

"Fine," I thought, "that's settled. So what if I win it? What then?" This worried me. Assuming I did not wish to keep the Fiesta, there seemed to be two possibilities. One was to hand it back to the MS people, to serve as the prize for their next raffle, or to sell, keeping the proceeds for myself. The other was to give the car to a friend or relation, deciding finally on my sister Deborah.

But Deborah has a car already. Though it could do with replacing, she wouldn't want to take a car from the MS people. Which of my relations would I revert to the idea of handing the prize back to the organisers of the raffle. It might be best to ask them to accept it from me for their next raffle. No publicity, of course. As my train pulled into Preston the problem seemed solved. And yet... here was I, potentially the owner of a new Fiesta, resolving to hand the thing back. Was this not the action of a party-pooper? The organisers of the raffle fully intended their prize to be claimed. Quite probably a phil-

anthropic businessman with links to the motor trade had secured this vehicle at well below its market price. Doubtless he could get me another for their next raffle.

Besides, was I not spilling the whole raffle ethos by my scrupulous refusal to take the prize? People only buy the tickets because they hope to win. If the idea takes root that the responsible citizen never accepts his prize, then tickets will prove harder to sell and raffles will founder. By accepting my Fiesta, I would actually be assisting the whole charitable sector in marketing the raffle concept. On this their future raffle ventures depended. It was unseemingly and selfish not to take the car.

Or was this just rationalising my own greed? I decided it was, and felt a little ashamed. The argument swung this way and that, as the train sped on.

By Crews I had indignation. I had changed my mind about accepting the Fiesta four times. I fell into a troubled sleep, rehearsing the arguments yet again.

I awoke at Watford Gap. You know how it is when you have fallen asleep worried: you wake up vaguely depressed forgetting what it was that was worrying you, but remembering that there is something to worry about. Of course! The Fiesta. Whatever shall I do?

Do? I realised my folly. Well thank goodness for that. The raffle had not been drawn. I had won nothing. It probably would not. No prize, no Fiesta, no dilemma. With a huge feeling of relief, I drifted back to sleep.

Diaries adrift

Two and a half years after his death, the writer Bruce Chatwin has become the subject of a strange literary intrigue over his diaries. The mystery begins with the simple question of whether the diaries actually exist. Redmond O'Hanlon, his literary executor, says they do not exist. Chatwin's widow, Elizabeth, is adamant that they do not.

"Chatwin wrote such an intimate diary, he kept it to himself and even recorded his thoughts in a secret code. He deposited them with the antiquarian bookseller, Bertram Rota," says O'Hanlon.

Not so, says Elizabeth Chatwin. "My husband never kept diaries. He certainly kept notebooks, as

any writer does, to record his thoughts. But they were not formulated and you cannot tell when they were written. His notes were not written in code, though his handwriting was pretty illegible."

But O'Hanlon insists that someone has been employed to decipher the diaries - although, keeping up the mystery, he will not divulge the name of the woman who is said to have cracked the code.



The explanation appears to be that the diaries are so intimate that the author kept them secret even from those closest to him. "They give detailed records of every personal relationship, and are very explicit about his feelings," says one close friend. "I'd like to think that the only reason not to publish them would be if they were boring. That most certainly is not the case."

A major literary row now seems unavoidable. Chatwin gave strict instructions that his papers were to be deposited in the Bodleian Library at Oxford, where they currently reside. He also stipulated that they were not to be made available for 20 years after his death.

But O'Hanlon takes a different view. "They should be published as soon as possible, so we can see the thoughts of one of Britain's greatest post-war novelists. Like his conversation, they will be dazzling," he says.

Bloomsdecade

A rose is a rose, said Gertrude Stein, adding several more roses for good measure. But for Miralav Mandic, the Yugoslavian poet and artist, the bloom represents a ten-year walk around Europe, each day spent walking 20 kilometres, tracing with his steps the outline of the flower. Mandic begins his odyssey this autumn, and by the end of his

marathon in 2001 will have drawn with his feet the intricate petals of a "Rose of Wandering" across the landscape of Europe, from Moscow to Lisbon, between Malta and Iceland. "A rose planted between two millennia," Mandic calls it.

At the risk of being prosaic, may one ask why he is doing this? "He hopes to travel freely from the Urals to the Atlantic. If he succeeds in crossing all frontiers then it will be the mark of a free and united Europe," says a colleague. "He feels himself to be a European, rather than a Yugoslavian or a Serbian, which he is by birth." If only his compatriots took such a broad view.

● Welcome to the Kuwaiti national football team, whose 30-member squad arrived in London this week. Friendlies are planned against Watford, Chelsea and Wimbledon during their four-week stay. "It is the first time they have played since the war. There is still not a pitch in Kuwait that is crater-free," says a spokesman.

Cabinet deluged

Rather as if the past 11 years had never happened, the ultra-wet Tory Reform Group will this Sunday announce two further steps in its apparent ambition to absorb the entire cabinet. David Hunt, the Welsh secretary, will take over as the new president, while Malcolm Rifkind will become the eighth member of the cabinet to become a patron of the group.

Eight months ago the wet group was as unfashionable as it was possible to be in Tory circles. Membership was something to be whispered, not boasted about. Tomorrow the transport secretary will join the ranks of Messrs Hunt, Hurd, Baker, Clarke, Heseltine, Patten and Waldegrave, while David Mellor and Tony Newton

Sub conscious

The nuclear submarine that sank the Belgrano may be about to begin a new career as a floating museum at Gosport. Tom King, the defence secretary, is still undecided what to do with the decommissioned sub, HMS Conqueror, which is moored off the Scottish coast, but is considering the suggestion from Michael Mates, chairman of the Commons select committee on defence, who got the idea from France. Mates, however, concedes that the over-sensitive British may not yet be ready for a day out on a nuclear submarine. "Our public just does not seem to be as robust about nuclear matters as the French," says the former lieutenant-colonel sadly.

● So that was what the war of independence was all about. Raymond Setiz, the new American ambassador in London, made his first official speech to a British audience this week, and told them exactly what he valued about being an American: "Freedom from Marmite, from roundabouts, from three-prong plugs, from all-day cricket, and, from Eastenders." What of the old vulgar saying that the only things wrong with Americans in Britain are that they are overpaid, oversexed and over here? "Well," said Setiz, "two out of three isn't bad." Which two he wasn't saying.



RULES OF THE GAME

Back to Yugoslavia today goes the European Community. They are in less confident mood than when they set out from Luxembourg last weekend proclaiming "the hour of Europe". The EC has brokered two ceasefires in a week, only to see them half-collapse. The warring parties agreed to reconstitute the federal presidency, only to see the Yugoslav army carry out a near-coup and dictate a fresh ultimatum to Slovenia. Yesterday Slovenia complied only in part, and Croatia promised to fight any federal troops crossing its territory, insisting that this would be no civil war but "an international conflict".

Meeting in The Hague, EC foreign ministers were understandably divided as to what would now be most likely to prevent all-out war in the Balkans: further attempts at even-handed mediation or, as Hans-Dietrich Genscher urged, immediate recognition of Slovenia and Croatia. The 12 were wise instead to try once again what an embargo on arms and aid coupled with further mediation could achieve.

Western public opinion is strongly with the Slovenes. To recognise the republics as sovereign states now might have superficial appeal. The EC would thereby uphold the principle of self-determination while maximising pressure on Serbia, whose refusal to countenance replacing an untenable federation by an "association" of sovereign republics was direct cause of its two neighbours' declarations of independence. But any such EC decision would have been irresponsible at this stage. Besides making all-out civil war even more likely, it would have stoked ethnic fires throughout Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. The presidents of Poland, Czechoslovakia and Hungary have been understandably appalled by the prospect.

To use recognition as a moral and political weapon to achieve change would be a perilous departure from established diplomatic practice. This is that recognition implies neither approval nor disapproval of a government, but an acknowledgement that it has sovereign authority in a given

territory. The rule has been broken only rarely (Cambodia is one example) and almost always for the worse. By aiding the complete break-up of Yugoslavia, the EC would not only have disqualified itself as mediator but would, in effect, have declared that Europe's map could be changed by unilateral proclamation or armed force.

Germany should review a policy which has split the Community and alarmed its neighbours to east, west and south. Seen from Bonn, German enthusiasm for Slovene and Croat independence is inspired by altruism. But an independent Slovenia would be closely linked to Austria and thus to Germany. Bonn must take special care to avoid reviving fears of German dominance, in France as well as Eastern Europe. However unwarranted, such suspicions would make Balkan peace even more elusive.

The EC has insisted that any use of force in Yugoslavia is inadmissible, and offered to provide observers to monitor a ceasefire under the auspices of the 35 nations of the CSCE. The aim is not to prop up an unrealistic Yugoslav republic, but to prevent it from precipitating and violent fragmentation. The federal government accepts that Yugoslavia cannot and must not be held together by force. The federal army, the only solidly Titoist institution now fighting for its existence, appears to have different motives. The army command knows that an alliance of sovereign republics would have had little use for federal troops even before the tanks rolled into Slovenia. Each would now insist on controlling its own armed forces.

The priority is to bolster civilian authority, at both federal and republican levels, against military rule. That is only possible with a ceasefire. The difficult business of dissolving the federation can then be dealt with. That must include not just the forging of new economic relations between the republics, but guarantees of citizenship and civil rights for the minorities which exist everywhere, even in relatively homogeneous Slovenia. Diplomatic recognition should follow these events, not precede them.

BEHEADING THE HYDRA

Unlike most by-elections, Thursday's in Liverpool Walton was significant. Its significance lay neither in the swing from Labour to the Liberal Democrats, nor in the Tories' loss of their deposit, but in Neil Kinnock's crushing victory over his far-left tendency on his home ground. Peter Kilfoyle's triumph over "Real Labour" means that the Militant hydra has lost another head.

There is, however, nothing to stop it growing more heads elsewhere. Hercules killed the monster only by searing its neck after decapitation. The straight fight at the hustings capped Neil Kinnock's campaign to drive Militant into the open, but Herculean efforts will still be needed to drive the victory home on a wider front.

Billed as the gunfight at the OK Corral, Walton was more like a turkey shoot. While Lesley Mahmood, the Militant candidate, did not come out heels first — she at least beat the Tory — her error of judgment in standing against the official candidate can be seen as "the end of an era" in Liverpool, in the words of her comrade Derek Hatton. Not only are at least 100 Walton Labour party members who campaigned for Mrs Mahmood almost certain to suffer summary ejection but Terry Fields, the Militant-supporting MP for Broadgreen, looks likely to be evicted from the parliamentary party.

Since 1983, over 100 Militants and others have been expelled. Among the new Labour candidates standing in marginal seats at the next election, half a dozen at most could be considered extremists, and none has any known links with Militant. Yet this is not the end of the story for this bizarre extremism, nor the end of Mr Kinnock's troubles.

Militant remains well entrenched, feeding on the "rotten borough" politics of councils urgently awaiting Michael Heseltine's reforms. Militant is the largest organisation on

the extreme left, with perhaps 7,000 members. It is comparatively prosperous, employing some 140 people full-time. The paper to which it gives its name owns profitable printing concerns, Cambridge Heath Press and Eastway Offset, which are believed to have links with about 60 local Labour parties. Like other hard-left groups, Militant Tendency gained new recruits during the anti-poll tax agitation last year.

All this means that Militant, despite setbacks in Liverpool, is still a force in Labour politics. Aided by Militant, the less well-known Trotskyist group, Socialist Organisation (also banned by Labour last year), came close to deselecting Frank Field as MP for Birkenhead. If Labour wins the next election, the hard left is certain to exploit the fact that Labour governments can rarely match the expectations of their idealists. They are vulnerable to charges of betrayal.

Labour will present the expulsions which must follow Walton as proof that the national executive is now merely engaged in mopping up. Mr Kinnock has proved adept at securing political gain from making tough speeches against the Militant threat. But any gain will have to be hard-fought. Mr Kinnock can expel Terry Fields, but he is unlikely to move against the streetwise Dave Nellist, and cannot contemplate action against the 30 or so other MPs who would oppose such a parliamentary purge.

If every last Militant were expelled, there would still remain the respectable hard left — of which the late Eric Heffer was a colourful representative — to parade itself as the alternative conscience of the party, to insist that Labour is supposed to be committed to socialism, however much this may embarrass the leadership. Proscribing Militant will never fully exorcise Labour's left. Killing the hydra was only one of Hercules' 12 labours.

HERITAGE IN KNOTS

Government policy on historic buildings is a mess. Historic house owners protest about reduced grants. So do cathedrals, more decorously. English Heritage, the relevant quango, could not be found a chairman to succeed Lord Montagu. The decision to allow Lord Palumbo to demolish listed buildings in the City of London has left conservation areas everywhere at risk. Architecture itself, with which conservation must live in symbiosis, is passing through a stylistic upheaval, leaving regulatory bodies unsure about "post-modern" schemes such as that at Paternoster Square near St Paul's.

Britain's laws on building conservation are sound. What is less sound is the political will to enforce them. One reason is the confusion of bodies charged with the task. Local authorities are in suspense over their future. Historic buildings ministers are reshuffled every six months. The Royal Fine Art Commission has become famously eccentric in its judgments of taste. But since it is purely consultative, its enervating of debate is both welcome and harmless.

English Heritage, set up with an array of statutory powers in 1984, must plough a more delicate furrow. Its personality remains deeply split between owning and running the former Ministry of Works sites and castles and implementing government conservation policy. It monitors England's half million listed buildings. It vets important planning applications and disburses £100m of grants to needy owners.

This money is now stretched beyond reason. Under law, any outstanding historic building is entitled to a grant. In practice the

great houses of England would eat the lot ten times over, not to mention the cathedrals, churches, chapels, industrial buildings, market towns and historic areas. Many owners see a conflict of interest in English Heritage approving, or refusing, grants to them while itself owning a large number of grant-maintained historic buildings, such as Stonehenge and Dover Castle.

New government guidelines are clearly needed to cover these grants. They should be aimed chiefly at those important buildings at risk of demolition. Yet this would make it even harder for struggling owners of fine houses, including the National Trust, to continue as responsible custodians of their property. Indeed, it would be an incentive to any owner to let a building decay until it qualifies as "at risk".

The answer must lie in other carrots than just grant: in particular, tax relief to encourage owners to maintain buildings in good order. Where the carrot is inadequate, the stick must be used more freely: planners enforcing conservation laws to the point of prosecution or compulsory purchase. The case of sadly dilapidated Heveningham Hall, raised this week in the Lords, shows how badly this is needed.

The powers and duties of English Heritage, its relationship with the environment department, the status of the Royal Fine Art Commission and the future role of county conservation teams all need review. Before English Heritage gets a new chairman, this baroque structure should be investigated before it, too, is at risk of collapse.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Fair play for fair pay up at the top

From Mr M. W. S. Hitchcock

Sir, It would have been an easy matter for the government to have required directors of recently privatised firms to receive the same pay increases as their employees, as suggested by Mr Ivor Hall (June 28), but would their services have been retained on that basis? If resignations had followed would there have been any candidates for the vacant posts? Running a large privatised corporation is a much more responsible job than administering the same for the government.

As one who has kept an eye on public-service salaries for over 30 years by referring to *Whitaker's Almanack*, and taking inflation into account, I believe that current top salaries in public companies are in line with pre-war levels. It is the level of ministerial salaries which has fallen most behind; thus, in 1939, the prime minister received £10,000 and cabinet ministers £5,000 (exhibiting a differential scale long buried).

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But is today's play still the thing?

From Mr Ian Flintoff

Sir, "Where are today's plays?" asks a rightly perturbed Benedict Nightingale (Arts, July 1).

As Shakespeare notes in *Hamlet* when the prince tells Polonius that actors are "the abstracts and brief chronicles of the time", drama has a unique function in society. There must therefore be something powerfully wrong when a society such as ours which has undergone, for better or worse, the immense changes of the past decade inspires nothing greater in would-be dramatists than stage versions of century-old favourite classics.

Stured contemporary critics such as Jane Austen and Charles Dickens were they alive would, in my view, be appalled to find their work so resuscitated as ersatz playwrighting, undoubtedly preferring a fresh crop of robust and perceptive originals in their own tradition.

Where contemporary matters are tackled it is often in the form of uninspiring near-documentary, or thematic pieces of such tame

obliqueness that the spectator often leaves the theatre under-nourished.

Our country is undergoing what may conceivably be the most fundamental changes in its role and character since the last century. Yet nothing is written even remotely commensurate with this fact, either for broadcasting or the stage.

It sometimes appears that there is a tacit agreement between writers and critics whereby the present mode for milk-and-water drama is over-praised, partly to keep both sides in business but also to string along a glib public into believing that things are happening when they are not.

Whatever the cause, the present time merits the emergence of an Ibsen, Shaw, Arthur Miller, commensurate in stature with events. I suspect they exist but their robustness and intelligence are not in tune with the criteria of the time.

Yours sincerely,
IAN FLINTOFF,
22 Chaldon Road, SW6,
July 1.

Church strength that lies in variety

From Mr Michael Latham, MP for Rutland and Melton (Conservative)

Sir, As a reader in the diocese of Peterborough, I was present at the inspiring service on June 22 to mark the 125th anniversary of the re-founding of the Ministry of Readers in the Church of England. While two of your correspondents (July 2) have focused on that sector of the Archbishop of Canterbury's remarkable address (report, June 24) when he talked about one service at the same time on Sunday, these remarks need to be set in context.

The archbishop's message was that some incumbents in scattered rural areas cannot provide a service at every church every Sunday unless either they drive furiously like Jehu from one church to another, or else use readers to assist them in the ministry of the Word.

It is true that readers cannot conduct eucharistic services, though they can, and do, assist at them. (Neither, incidentally, can deacons, although they are ordained.) But the archbishop also expressed his concern that the trend towards all Sunday services being Holy Communion had put pressure on many faithful adult churchgoers who are not confirmed, especially in rural areas.

He hoped that "Bible services", whether matins or evensong from the Prayer Book, or indeed family services of an informal nature would also be available in our churches. Such services can be entirely conducted by readers, and frequently are. I conduct them myself.

Although every Anglican will gladly accept that the Eucharist must always be the highest expression of corporate worship, the

archbishop's endorsement of "Bible services" is a welcome attempt to balance scales which had tilted too much one way as a result of the liturgical movement which arose from Vatican II. A historic strength of the Church of England is the variety of its services. That variety must never be lost or pushed to the margin.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL LATHAM,
House of Commons

From Mr Allan Parrott
Sir, As a rural churchwarden I have been advised at archdeacon's visitations and most strongly advised at subsequent suffragan episcopal occasions to study diligently Bishop Peter Norrish's strategy for the diocese of Norwich, "Moving forward", from which Archbishop Carey is said to have quoted.

I am concerned that my understanding and that of many of my colleagues differs from the archbishop. "Moving forward" (pp. 14 and 15) commends consistency in times of services, not consistency in our group of parishes we adhere to the same time every Sunday for services: 8 am, 11 am and 6.30 pm. It is the content which varies.

My old friend Richard Kingsbury (July 2) amusingly bewails his potential lot. What advice has he, I wonder, for this "aging conservative" who, because of temporary clerical incapacity, finds himself responsible this coming Sunday for leading an act of worship entitled "Family Service".

Yours sincerely,
ALLAN PARROTT,
The Long House, Reedham,
Norwich, Norfolk,
July 2.

The great majority of Jews in Britain belong to Orthodox synagogues and would feel deeply offended by Dr Brichio's remarks. Judaism rejects tampering with religious precepts to suit immoral and dishonest times. It demands instead that we change the times we live in to conform to the standards taught by religion.

The ideal of sexual abstinence till marriage and the purity and sacred nature of marriage itself is the bedrock upon which a sound and moral society is based. To undermine this ideal is to destroy the society we strive to preserve.

Yours faithfully,
NISON SHULMAN,
37 John's Wood Synagogue,
37 Grove End Road, NW8.

Puritan tyranny which followed the Civil War, to which many ancient customs succumbed. It was revived in the nineteenth century and still continues. This year's dance is on September 9.

People calling themselves pagans frequently attend the dance and attempt to imbue it with all sorts of superstitious nonsense. If the dance ever had pagan religious meanings, they were forgotten long ago.

Yours,
NEIL THOMAS,
6 Chaucer Road, Stafford,
July 2.

show that accident rates of drivers aged 74 and over are lower than those aged 21 to 24 and less than half of those aged 17 to 21.

Older people in general are responsible citizens and research carried out at Manchester University shows that they do adapt their driving behaviour as necessary: for instance, not driving at night or in bright sunlight if their eyes no longer react quickly to glare.

This organisation believes that older drivers should never be discriminated against on the ground of age alone; the ability of drivers of any age is what is important.

Yours sincerely,
SALLY GREENGROSS, Director,
Age Concern England,
1268 London Road, SW16.

\$10,000 question

Professor A. G. Aldins
Sir, Should those who worry about loss of sovereignty, the position of sterling, a common European currency and so on be concerned that at Wimbledon McEnroe (report, July 4) is fined in US dollars?

Yours faithfully,
TONY ATKINS,
White House, Heads Lane,
Inkpen Common, Berkshire.

Weekend Money letters, page 34

Palumbo and SAVE

Farmer's diary: Paul Heiney

Heroic Alice's finest hour

MY FIELD of barley is awash with crimson poppies, and a joy to behold. I suspect that as a farmer I should view this as some kind of failure: I know a chap who let a field go fallow one year and the result was a display of poppies so vivid that people came from miles around to see it. He was very embarrassed. Having spent years employing chemicals and technology to control his weeds he felt he deserved more than to have the hardy poppy thumb its nose at him.

But it is not the poppies' powers of survival that have endeared them to me recently: they are also the symbol of remembrance and gallantry, for which this has been a fortnight I shall never forget. The drama started at midnight on the longest day of the year. Just as I was getting into bed, I heard a squeal from the pigsty, so faint that it might have been a slight movement of a rusty hinge: except that it had a blend of bewilderment and frustration which I have learnt to recognise as the alarm call of the newly born piglet. Alice, the Large Black sow, already a mother of 25, was at it again.

She rarely makes a mistake in giving birth, so I was slightly concerned at the whimpering. Generally speaking, you can bet that no sooner are piglets born than they set off purposefully for the nearest test, which they find with hardly any trouble. But one flash of the torch into the dark sty revealed Alice's major miscalculation. No doubt in order to enjoy the cooling breeze around her rear end while at the same time giving her milk the inner warmth of the sty, she had plonked herself down in the doorway. It is quite a wide door, but she is a very wide pig and consequently when the newly born set off in search of something to suck they found themselves impeded by a firmly wedged Alice. It was like expecting babies to cross the Black Mountains for their first taste of mother.

I employed a technique not used in obstetrics in this country for some time, and shouted, "Get up you daft bitch!" So shocked was this grand dame at being addressed in such a manner that she heaved herself to her feet, ambled inside, and settled down again without even bothering to give me

a grunt. That pig has a withering way with her silences.

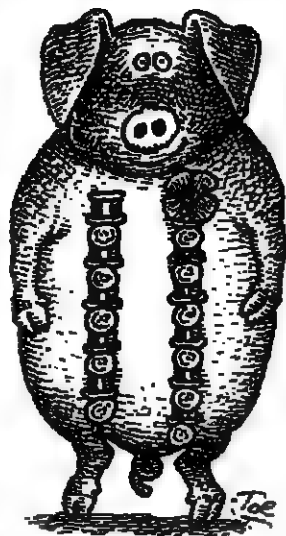
Next morning we had 11 piglets and a big problem. Alice had one test the size of a cricket ball, and just as hard. It felt hot and looked tender. The vet confirmed infection and warned that other tests might be suspect, too. He gave her an antibiotic but doubted whether Alice would be able to feed her litter. Only nine tests among 11 piglets spells trouble. Kindly, although it was a weekend, the vet drove off to find us a sack of "Sow Milk Replacer". But when I saw the gloomy package and its list of contents, it read like a food additives horror story. It had antibiotics, growth promoters and a sinister ingredient described as being "denatured according to EC regulations" (aren't we all?).

I am not against giving drugs to animals to cure or to save life, but I hardly felt these healthy, hungry piglets deserved a pharmaceutical belt round the ear at this early stage in their lives. So I discussed it with my wife, and we came to the conclusion that Alice might conceivably hold the solution to her own problem. We went back to the sty and told the old sow that we were placing our full trust in her.

But we didn't abandon her. We paid hourly visits, sometimes bringing bunches of fresh clover from the meadow, like relatives visiting the sick. Under the influence of her medication, poor Alice was clearly under the weather. She didn't move much except to eat, and then with only half an appetite. As for the piglets, we expected one morning to find two of them dead and some kind of natural selection to have taken place. Alice would know best.

But a week later, all 11 are thriving. I do not know how she has done it; perhaps she has devised some intricate rota system, for none looks underfed or sickly. When my wife had a fit of panic and decided to bottle-feed the smallest, it resisted arrest and spat out the test.

Alice, too, has regained her strength. She is a heroine, whose determination has seen her litter through. Whatever happens now, it has been an act of bravery, and every year when the poppies are in flower, we shall remember.



Green grows my roof-oh

Heather Strange is planning a roof garden with a difference: her home extension will be completely covered with turf. Will the idea grow? Heather Kirby reports

For most of us, mowing the lawn means walking slowly behind a machine in more or less straight lines until the job is done. For Heather Strange, however, it could be an altogether more complicated chore, as the grass she has to cut will be on her roof.

Ms Strange, after getting planning permission from the South Shropshire district council, plans to build a single-storey extension to her old stone cottage and to give it a turf roof. She already has grass growing on her barn roof, and that has proved to be perfectly satisfactory. In fact, she planted some cress bulbs in it and they thrived.

Getting permission for a turf roof was quite difficult, she says, because the chairman of the local planning committee thought it a bit odd. "Turf roofs are not uncommon in Sweden, and in medieval times there were turf houses, wooden frames filled with clods of earth instead of bricks or blocks. I produced about 90 photographs, as well as an artist's impression, and very detailed plans of what I proposed doing in order to convince the committee that a turf roof is really quite a sensible idea."

"When they first heard about it, the local planners said: 'We can't have that.' But once I explained how a turf roof works and produced some evidence from the Centre for Alternative Technology in North Wales, they were happy."

"A turf roof is ecologically friendly: you save on energy because it keeps the rooms below warmer than a conventional roof and it fits nicely into the rural scene. Also, unlike slates, it is not going to blow off in the horrendous winds we get around here."

She describes "around here" as "Mary Webb country", dreary, heavy rural Shropshire. "Traditionally this was a mining area, right back to Roman times, and we are constantly getting companies such as RTZ coming to test the temperature, to see how people feel about them moving in and digging everything up to search for zinc and cadmium. We have heather-covered hills with great piles of granite sticking out which are what give the place its name, Siperstones."

This is an area of outstanding natural beauty, one of the reasons I had difficulty getting my project approved and why I had to go to great lengths to show I was not contravening their guidelines for buildings in the area. These aim at

maintaining traditional stone cottages but that doesn't happen really. No one can afford to build in stone so they build in blocks then paint it white."

Ms Strange, aged 52, a former infant school teacher in London and the southeast until she moved to Shropshire five years ago, now practises acupuncture and Chinese herbalism.

She has two acres on which she keeps a goat and hens and grows her own vegetables, although the herbs she uses for her alternative medicine come mostly from Japan and America. "I am semi self-sufficient and use organic methods which is something I have been interested in for 30 years at least; I am not jumping on any bandwagon."

"My cottage has been described as 200 years old but I have no idea how old it really is. I have only one room up and one down, although they are both bigish, but I love my cottage the way it is. I even have honeysuckle growing round the door, so I am extending it in a way that will become part of the background, using a traditional wood-clad technique."

The extension will be mostly a self-build project, she says, although she has learnt from experience that some of the heavy jobs will have to be contracted out. A gardener will not be necessary as the roof is going to be low-pitch, only a 15-degree angle, so she does not envisage any problems looking after it. Nor will it let in rain, as one of the planning stipulations is that there should be a waterproof lining, much like a rubberoid pond liner, under the four to six inches of turf, which she will buy from ads in the local newspaper.

"That also means I will not have to worry about worms coming through, and I don't think I will be troubled by field mice, as it is rather high up for them. And if it is not, I have cats who will no doubt be interested."

"If the grass gets too long I will climb up and cut it using a scythe or a strimmer, but I don't believe I will need to. I will probably just let it grow. If we get a dry spell it will turn yellow, that is one of the attractive things about having a turf roof, it changes colour according to the season."

"I think they should introduce turf roofs into inner cities where the people have hardly any green. It would really improve the environment."



Under cover: Heather Strange and an experimental turf roof on a shed in her Shropshire garden

Country events

THIS WEEKEND

□ Fire show spectacular: Vintage and modern fire engines and appliances, custom cars, craft fair and arena events.

All England Jumping Course, Hickstead, West Sussex. Today, tomorrow, 10am-6pm. £3, accompanied child free.

□ Reptile reveals: Frogs, lizards, toads and snakes - all can be seen at close quarters. Wildfowl Trust, Martin Mere, Ormskirk, Lancashire (0704

895181). Today, tomorrow, 9.30am. £3, children £1.50.

□ Let's Do It: Touring tribute to Cole Porter starring Paul Jones and Elaine Delmar. Tonight at Arlington, tomorrow at Polesden Lacey, where the annual country fair takes place during the day.

Arlington Court, near Barnstaple, Devon (booking 0271 850296). Polesden Lacey, near Dorking, Surrey (0. 2438203).

□ National patchwork championship: Quilts, wall hangings, fabric, small, information and advice. Hatfield House, Herts. Until Tues. £8.80, children £1.50.

NEXT WEEK

□ Open-air Shakespeare: The Cynnet Theatre's As You Like It, overlooking the F&S estuary. Trevelick Garden, Fock, near Truro, Cornwall. Fri and Sat. Booking on 0872 862090.

□ Music by moonlight: Edwardian musical extravaganzas with fireworks. Wear period costume if you wish, take a picnic and rug. Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal, near Ripon, North Yorkshire. Fri and Sat. Gates open 6pm. Book on 0765 620333.

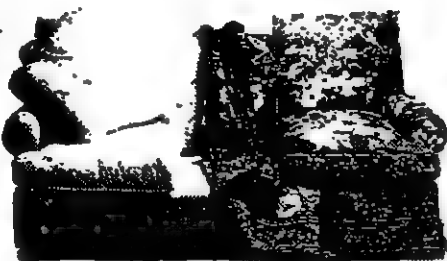
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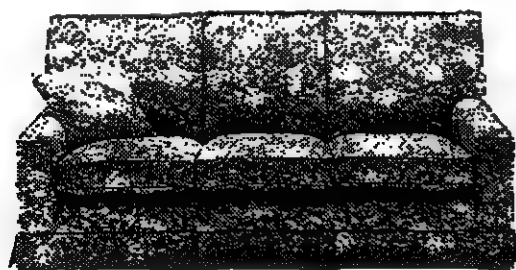
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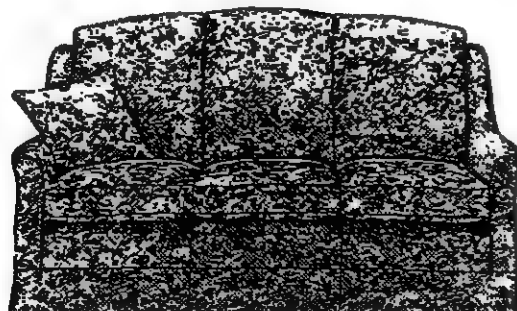
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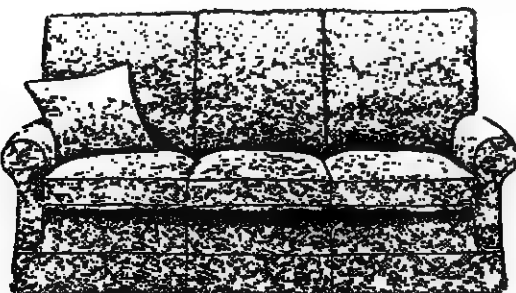
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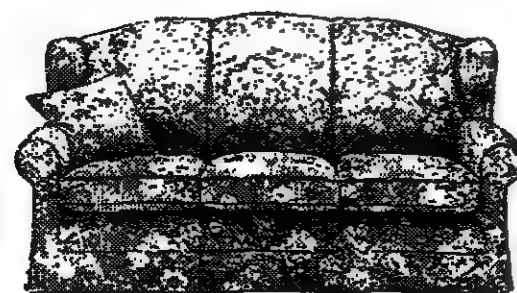
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Tweets at the supermarket

Feather report

"TLL just put you on hold." Oh no: here it comes again: "Tum tumtum, tum tumtum..." Another quick fix of Vivaldi. The Four Seasons has become the musical wallpaper of the world. It follows you into upmarket pubs and downmarket restaurants: a charming piece of music has become something that drives you to screaming point.

For musicians, it is a torture: they cannot not listen to it. The rest of us acquire the reprehensible habit of editing out Vivaldi as white noise. What has all this to do with birds? The answer is birdsong: at least, so Duncan MacDonald tells me. He runs a company called Bird Recording Services, and believes that the background music problem can be solved by the substitution of birdsong. He offers a relatively new departure in birdsong recordings: the CD. The range includes aids to identification and a number of discs that are a simple concert of birds. The French are on the leading edge of this breakthrough for Western civilisation: high time they made a contribution.

The identification discs are selling well in Britain, less well in France. The reverse is true of the "atmosphere" discs. "They create a perfect, laid-back atmosphere in French cafes that use them," Mr MacDonald says. "And I've noticed when I have played them at country shows that childreproop crying when they come to my tent."

Now there's a notion: play the Maytime dawn chorus at supermarkets for an instant improvement in the quality of life. No more "Wayne, shut-up you little bleeder" and "Be good or Hortense won't give

you any quiche tonight". Everyone, adult and child, will be calm, serene, won over by the song of the nightingale.

Birdsong is not spoilt if you come in at the middle. Birdsong is not soiled by repetition; constant repetition is part of the point of a bird's territorial acclamation. Birdsong is re-seeded only by insomnia and drunks, which makes it tough on my profession, but fine for everybody else.

CDs are perfect for bird song. The four-disc identification set has 396 species, 99 on each disc. You can find them at once, without needing to spool through, like Krapp, and without a po-faced voice announcing the species, a necessary evil of tapes.

CD clarity is a bonus. Every nuance, from the basso reverberation of the car-baffling squeak of tree-creeper, is pin-sharp. Nor do the recordings call it a day with the cock's springtime alarm calls, contact calls and variations are all packed in. The notoriously variable great tit gets a full three minutes. This is a great reference work.

Mr MacDonald says the atmosphere tapes are the perfect background to social gatherings. I tried the experiment at an impromptu gathering in darkest Hertfordshire, with a CD of sounds from the African bush: strange birds and occasional interventions from stranger mammals. This would have been a great success were I not a confirmed Africa bore. I kept interrupting with shouts of "Lion!" and "Hear the collared barbet!"

I have yet to try the dawn chorus disc: Birds Awakening in company. For some reason nobody has come to visit since the African evening. But that one has become a firm favourite with my cats. They look

forward to a CD of mice, voles and shrews.

Services, PO Box 942, London E10 6RZ.

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● All the Bird Songs of Europe, on four CDs, £49.95. Birds Awakening and African Forests and Savannahs. £12.99 each. (incl p&p) from Bird Recording

What's about Birds - watch for noisy in families. These attract sparrowhawks. Twitters - short-toed lark at West Wittering, Sussex. Black stork seen flying into Norfolk. Details from Birdline 0898 700222.

The designer look?

Terence Conran has spent the last seven years meticulously restoring an old farmhouse in Penzance.



artistic clutter?

David Hockney's beach retreat is crammed with leopardskin furniture and pub ashtrays.



164-PAGE SUMMER ISSUE

METROPOLITAN HOME

THE INSIDE STORY

Welcome, in any language

Pensioners are learning Russian as Sheffield's Spirit of '91 lifts off

Placed around the tidy bungalow home of pensioners Charlotte and Reg Ellis are one-word signs, neatly written in the Russian they learnt at night class. They are attached to room doors and to such everyday objects as the telephone and mirror. The couple are preparing for two special guests, young members of the Soviet circus group Clowns, Clowns, Clowns, which is performing in the World Student Games festival, the Spirit of '91, in Sheffield this month. Karen Vardanyan, aged 18, and Arak Arutyunyan, 20, will live for a week at the three-bedroom bungalow at Sothall, on the city's outskirts.

"I feel it is essential for them to have a comfortable home base," says Mr Ellis, aged 70, a retired trade union official. "Their first impressions are the ones they will take home."

The Ellises, members of Sheffield's Kruzhok, the link organisation with their Russian twin town of Donetsk, are among 150 families who have volunteered to offer bed and breakfast to 360 festival performers from around the world. In all, 7,500 volunteers have registered to help run the games, which open on July 14.

The Ellises are already planning menus for their guests, who arrive on July 19. "I have a Russian cookbook," Mrs Ellis says, "as well as trips into the Derbyshire countryside and to the coast, and a farewell celebration for the entire 23-strong Russian party a week later. Mrs Ellis, who was one of 100 delegates from Britain to attend the Women's International Democratic Federation conference in Moscow in 1987, is planning a cake with the Union Jack and the Soviet flag on it.

Mr Ellis, who has been studying Russian for four months at evening classes, is hoping to practise his language

skills on his guests. He and his wife are also secretly hoping that the Russians may agree to show off a few of their circus skills to some of the neighbours in the bungalow's garden.

This weekend, as the games village opens for the first of the 6,000 athletes arriving from more than 100 countries, 500 volunteer "attachés" will attend their final training session.

Ruth Wilson, a former lecturer, is the volunteer agency co-ordinator, responsible for filling the thousands of vacancies for attachés, drivers, doctors, physiotherapists, games village staff, stewards, and participants in the opening ceremony. "We were looking for language skills and a knowledge of the various sports for some jobs," she says. "The response has been superb, although we're still looking for volunteers who can speak Czech, Romanian, Bulgarian and Hungarian."

The attachés, the only volunteers who will be living within the games village, are there as "goats". "If athletes want a newspaper, want to book an extra training session, want to go out to eat, need a racket restringing, they will arrange it," Mrs Wilson says. Don Metcalfe, aged 21, the son of the former athlete Adrian Metcalfe, is in charge of the attachés.

Paula Pugh, aged 27, who spent four years at teacher training college in Sheffield, will be the Turkish volleyball team's attaché. "It's going to be absolutely fantastic," she says. When Ms Pugh, who lived in Iran for 18 years, volunteered her Persian language skills coupled with a good knowledge of volleyball, she was originally assigned to an Iranian volleyball team. "Then we realised they were a male team who would not accept a female attaché."

LYNNE GREENWOOD

Lizzie's Oak is dead: long live the tree

Salt pollution and neglect are killing our urban trees. How can we save them? Liz Gill reports

Arboriculturists this week bowed to the inevitable and accepted the demise of one of Britain's most famous trees. Queen Elizabeth's oak, which topped over on Tuesday night after more than 700 years in Greenwich Park, is to be sawn up for souvenirs, and possibly furniture.

Less celebrated trees disappear regularly from cityscapes, but although there may be little to mark their passing the decision to get rid of one is rarely taken lightly. Peter Holloway, a senior arboricultural officer with London's Westminster council, which has 6,000 street trees, says there eventually comes a point when a decision has to be made about a tree's future. "You have to decide when you mean by useful life," he says. "If it is an unusual or particularly fine example you might go to more trouble to keep it. We have a very old Indian bean on Victoria Embankment which has to be supported, but it is a very good example of that species. If you had a dying tree overhanging a road or a children's playground, that would not be an acceptable risk."

Compared with the national average - a Liverpool university survey put the first-year survival rate for trees at about 50 per cent in many places - Westminster does well. Mr Holloway says 95 per cent of its new trees (more than half of which are planted) survive, mainly because it starts off with good specimens.

Lizzie's Oak at Greenwich was protected as befitted its age and importance. Usually, urban trees must contend with an environment that is always hazardous, and sometimes downright hostile.

"There are an awful lot of stresses on trees," says Dr Martin Dobson, the scientific officer with the Forestry Commission research division. Dr Dobson is the author of a report on the use of de-icing salts on British roads and its dangers for town trees. One of the most dramatic illustrations of the effects can be seen in the heart of the capital. Keeping Trafalgar Square clear through the worst of winter has left a summer legacy of trees that are either leafless or obviously ailing. Trees along the Embankment have been similarly affected.

But salt is only the latest in a

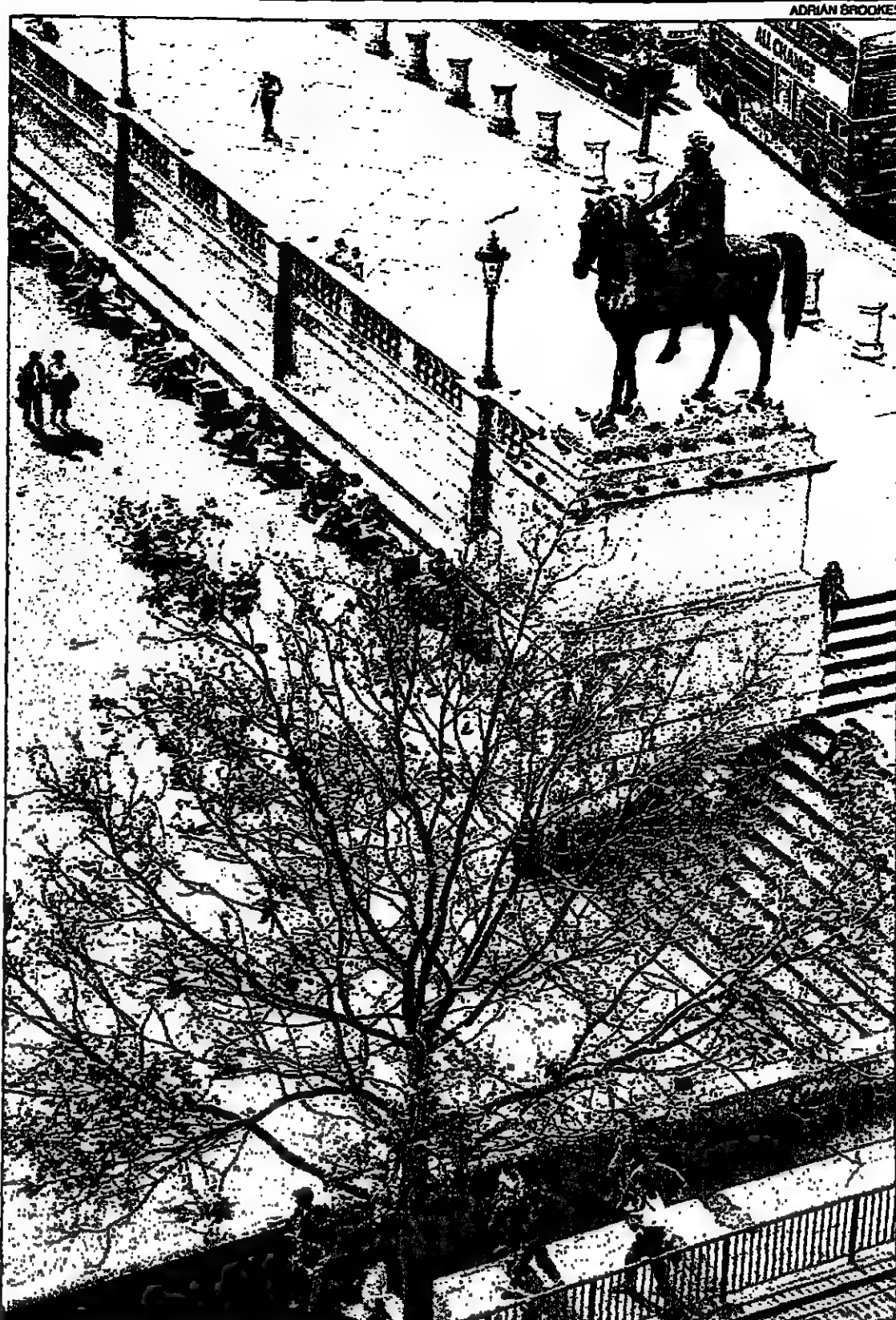
catalogue of woes which can turn what should be amenities into liabilities. Trees planted on grass verges are frequently the victims of carelessly used cutters or trimmers; damage to the bark makes the tree prone to infection and can damage the vessels that carry nutrients. Concerned citizens, Dr Dobson says, should keep an eye on their local trees for signs of vandalism or signs that the tree is in trouble and contact their tree warden or local council. Loosening tight stake ties would help a tree, as would watering it in dry spells. But he advises against amateur pruning or fertilising.

Careless use of weedkillers in private gardens can spread to trees nearby, and DIY building of walls or house extensions can damage roots, which may extend underground for up to three times the tree's height. Such destruction is usually unintentional, although residents angered by a specimen that blocks their light have been known to carry out their own tree surgery. If a tree has a preservation order on it, offenders could be fined three times its value.

One survey of urban trees estimated that the average lifespan was only ten years, but that figure, Dr Dobson says, was mainly due to heavy losses in the first couple of years. "A tree which gets established can live to a ripe old age," he says. "Oaks, limes, horse-chestnuts and planes, for instance, may survive 200 years if well maintained."

Salt, which has been abandoned in some German and American cities, remains a threat here. "What happens is that it is washed off the road, goes down into the rooting area and is then taken up by the tree and transported to its crown. The chloride in salt is toxic to trees. The leaves either wilt almost as soon as they come out, or they mature but turn brown around the end of May so that the tree looks autumnal."

"After the bad winter of 1986-87, virtually all the trees in Trafalgar Square, which were 20 or 30 years old, were lost and had to be replaced. There were only two mature ones left and after this last winter there are looking woody. And the younger ones, which were replacements, have no leaves at all." Other towns



Summer sorrow: one of the leafless victims of winter road salting in Trafalgar Square, photographed this week

and cities, he says, have been similarly affected, particularly those in the Midlands and eastern regions, which had the worst of the weather.

Shedding away the salt and applying gypsum to the soil, along with potassium and phosphate fertilisers, can minimise the damage but such action must be immediate: it is too late now. For the future, Dr Dobson says, there are several alternatives to salting, including grit or calcium magnesium acetate, but this is 20 times as expensive. According to Bill Matthews, the

managing director of Southern Tree Surgeons, another great danger to the urban tree is over-reliance on one species.

This is partly what has rendered the London plane so susceptible to the fungus anthracnose, which makes the leaves shrivel and fall. "It seems particularly bad this year. It likes damp conditions," Mr Matthews says. "And if you have a lot of one type of tree it just multiplies. Ideally you should never have more than 10 per cent of any one species in your overall number."

Calls to plant only British trees leave him unmoved. "Even the experts are hard-pressed to say exactly which are the native species. It seems silly to niggly if you have got a splendid foreign tree which thrives here." The Norway maple is the most popular choice in this country for urban planting. Neglect, Dr Dobson believes, is still the biggest problem. "You often get a budget for buying trees but none for maintenance when, in fact, you should allow the same amount for that."



From Sheffield with love: Charlotte and Reg Ellis get set

Events in town

THIS WEEKEND

City of London Festival More than 200 events in 50 venues, including St Paul's and Southwark cathedrals, Guildhall and the Mansion House, ranging from classical concerts to jazz, poetry readings, platform performances, forums, dance, walks and fringe entertainment. City of London, tomorrow until July 24. Details from box office (071-377 0340).

River carnival and raft race

Decorated boats, stalls and entertainment. River Thames, Chertsey, tomorrow, from 11.15am.

Festival of the Air

The largest kite festival in Europe, with spectacular aerial displays of stunt, fighting and team kites, plus competitions, exhibitions, craft market, fringe entertainment and refreshments including Japanese food. Northern Area Playing Fields, Washington, Tyne and Wear. Today, tomorrow, 10.30am-4.30pm. Free.

Carnival: Family day with displays, exhibitions, competitions, crafts, entertainers and children's activities

South Park, Oxford. Tomorrow, 2-6pm.

Cathedral festival: Sculpture, angling exhibition (Sir Isaac Walton is buried here), embroidery and calligraphy in the cathedral. Paintings and a photographic exhibition in the deanery. A craft market with items for sale and a number of craft demonstrations including stone masonry in the cloister.

Winchester cathedral, Hampshire. Today, tomorrow 10am-5pm. Cathedral exhibition until Fri. Further information on 0952 843933.

Festival time at Winchester

NEXT WEEK

International music show

The largest music exhibition in the UK, with an extensive range of equipment, printed music, accessories and instruments on display, and opportunities to try out many of the models. Olympia, London W14. Fri-Sun, 9.30am-6.30pm. £6, children £3.

Royal Tournament: Displays of strength, skills and pageantry by the armed forces.

Earl Court Exhibition Centre, Warwick Road, London SW5. Wed-Jul 27, £5-£20, children £2.50-£10. Box office, 071-373 8141.

Great Yorkshire Show: More than 4,000 animal entries, 6,000 trade stands, main ring attractions and exhibitions.

Yorkshire Showground, Harrogate, N Yorks (0423 561536). Tues-Wed.

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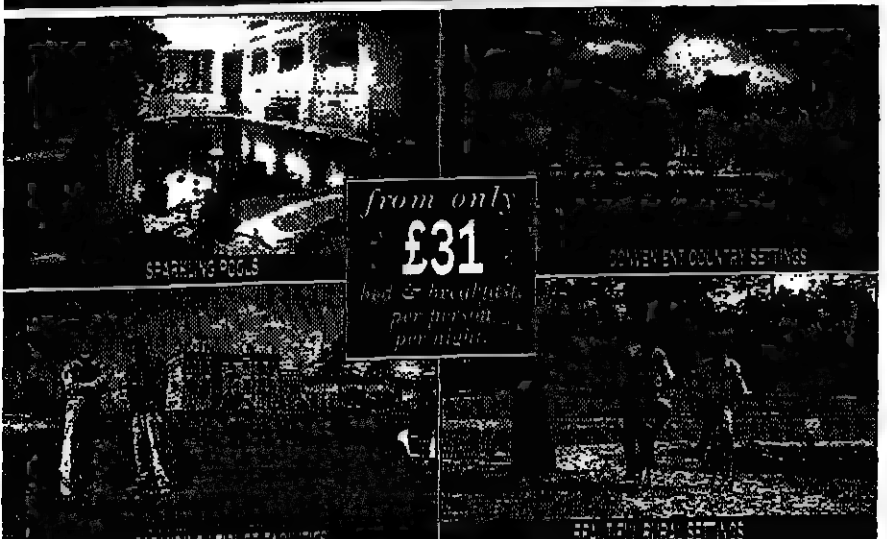
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JUDY FROSHAUG

Who drew the Michelangelo?

A new book suggests most so-called Michelangelo drawings are wrongly attributed. Sarah Jane Checkland reports

Michelangelo was a purist who wanted the world only to see his work perfect and finished. To the chagrin of his biographer, Vasari, and patron, Cosimo de' Medici, he was in the habit of burning his drawings, and made two such bonfires just before his death in 1564. Strange, therefore, that, at the last count, the number of drawings attributed to the great High Renaissance artist is 630 - about 400 more than in 1960. Either scholarship or temptation is making great advances.

The field, according to Leo Steinberg, the professor of art history at Pennsylvania University, fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and author of *Michelangelo's Last Paintings* (1975), "is simply a conglomeration of a lot of money involved. If a drawing is by Michelangelo, it would sell to the Getty for \$1 million or \$2 million; if by one of his followers, such as Condivi, you would be lucky to get £500 for it." No wonder, therefore, that the first scholar to attempt to clarify the situation is being dismissed by the British art establishment, which owns the lion's share of drawings attributed to Michelangelo.

This week the first English translation of *Michelangelo's Drawings: The Science of Attribution* was published. Its author, Alexander Perig, a Swiss-born professor based at the University of Germany, has been dismissed as a crank, because he suggests that of the 630 drawings attributed to Michelangelo, only 85 are by him. He goes so far as to suggest that some, such as the *Head of a Youth*, pride of the Royal Collection at Windsor Castle, were drawn by Michelangelo's lover, Tommaso de' Cavalieri, the educated Roman nobleman renowned for his beauty, to whom the master gave drawing lessons. Others, he says, are by pupils.

Were Professor Perig's claims to be accepted, the British Museum would stand to lose 15 Michelangelo drawings, the Royal Collection nine and the Ashmolean 12.

"Of the eight or nine drawings in question, only one of them is definitely not authentic, and everyone has known about that for 40 years," a Buckingham Palace



Left: Michelangelo's *Head of a Youth*. Right: the Royal Collection's *Head of a Youth* - or is it a Cavalieri self-portrait modelled on the Cleopatra?

spokesman for the Royal Collection says firmly. "The others are all well authenticated." "We have no reason to revise our opinion of the drawings. His claims are nothing new," a spokesman at the British Museum says. The only member of the trio open to debate is the Ashmolean, whose curator of European art, Timothy Wilson, says: "There has been at least 100 years of ebb and flow of arguments about what is and what isn't by Michelangelo... We welcome a contribution to the topic."

Professor Perig has been studying Michelangelo throughout his 30-year career, publishing until now, his research in particularly impenetrable German. The present volume in English is understood to have disappointed him because it is such a curtailed version of his life's work. He starts from the premise that few of the drawings survive and, suggesting that until now connoisseurs have not had a systematic method to determine authenticity, goes on to supply one. Having

analysed the style, technique and development in Michelangelo's undisputed drawings, with reference to what he calls their "kinetic energies", he produces a "sieve" of their characteristics, "sufficiently finely meshed to catch every other authentic drawing from the grey

Perig's approach," Professor Steinberg says. "I would place his (Perig's) work among the half-dozen outstanding monuments of 20th century art-historical scholarship," he writes in a tribute included in Professor Perig's book. Professor Steinberg claims that scholarship on Michelangelo's drawings stopped in 1953 on the publication of *Michelangelo and his Studio*, a book by the art historian John Pope-Hennessy. "He simply reinstated drawings wholesale. Scores and scores of them - reattributed without argument."

Professor Perig, he says, has been the only art historian brave enough subsequently to take up the cause of truth. "He started developing serious and completely new criteria. He studied graphology. He brought in criteria such as organisation of the sheet - to what extent would the artist respect previous drawings on



Left: Michelangelo's *Head of a Youth*. Right: the Royal Collection's *Head of a Youth* - or is it a Cavalieri self-portrait modelled on the Cleopatra?

the sheet, and so on. No two artists do it the same way." Unfortunately, Professor Steinberg says, the reward for such research has been to be branded a "pariah". The frankest in his denunciations has been David Ekserdjian, the Slade fellow in Renaissance art at Corpus Christi, Oxford, who is to join Christie's as an old master specialist next October. Professor Perig, he says, is like a "fat cat" theorist: "Such people are unperturbed by anything you say. They get around it by piling further madness on initial madness."

What particularly rankles, he says, is that connoisseurs are now being credited with some of "the greatest draftsmanship of all time". "It is difficult to know who did what, but the idea that somebody like Cavalieri, who was Michelangelo's boyfriend and an amateur artist, could have produced drawings among the most phenomenal executed is hard to take," Mr Ekserdjian says. "You get all sorts of peculiar scenarios such as Cavalieri helping Michelangelo to devise the *Last Judgment*."

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America fuels Coke sale

Review

Master strokes: Fierce bidding by British dealers and Americans raised £3.26 million - twice the amount expected - for Visconti's sale of 66 old master drawings at Holkham Hall, Norfolk. The top price was £264,000 (five times estimate) for a woodland landscape by the Italian Baroque artist Pietro Bernini da Cortona, bought by Hazlett Gooden & Fox, the London dealers. Old master paintings also fared well at Sotheby's, top price being £253,000 (estimate £70,000-£100,000) for a *Madonna and Child* by the Bolognese 17th century artist Guido Reni. At Christie's, the Geneva art museum paid £495,000 for a pastel portrait of the Swiss-born Lady Tyrrell, by the Geneva 18th century artist Jean-Etienne Liotard.

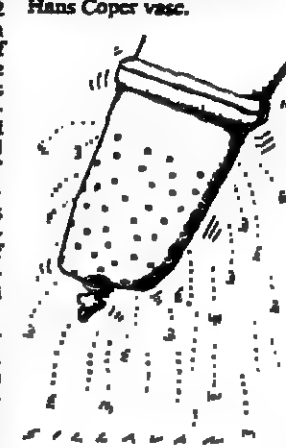
Thief line: The cheapest acquisition at the Grosvenor House Fair last month was a £30,000 Japanese ivory stolen from Sydney L. Moss's stand. Substantial rewards are being offered after the theft of £2 million of paintings in London last month. The property of two anonymous owners, the 63 works by artists such as George Stubbs, John Frederick Herring Senior and Montague Dawson vanished from Alfred Bishop and Sons' warehouse in Canning Town.

Valgate price: Christie's expects £1 million in November for the Valgate Bible of 1460, set from Johann Gutenberg's first edition, published five years previously.

Harrold: The record for the St Ives abstract artist Patrick Heron rose to £33,000 at Sotheby's, but unrealistically high reserves resulted in 52 per cent of the British post-war and contemporary art remaining unsold.

Friday: Sickert's easel (up to £2,500) is among the frames and artists' equipment at Christie's South Kensington sale, at 10.30am. Bonhams' ceramics sale, at 11am, includes a pair of early Meissen teacups and saucers (up to £1,500).

Sotheby's, New Bond Street: *SW1* (071-493 8080), Christie's, King Street, St James's: *SW1* (071-493 9060), Phillips, 101 New Bond Street, *W1* (071-629 6602), Christie's, South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, *SW7* (071-581 7611), The Herford Sale Room, 106 Fore Street, Herford (0992 582249), Neales, 192 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, (0602 624141), Bonhams, Monspelter Street, *SW7* (071-584 9161).



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Touching: Robert Hayward (Giovanni), Sean Rea (Commendatore) and angel

Charred in the fire of dangerous living

No, taking pleasure is not the same thing as having fun. This is a dark, hearted, troubled and troubling vision of Mozart's *dramma giocoso* that Tim Albery and his designer Ashley Martin-Davis offer in this IBM-sponsored Opera North production, and it is swept into being by orchestral playing under Paul Daniel of extraordinary speed and fizzing vivid allure.

The music begins with the summons to hell, and by abolishing the curtain Albery can justify placing the action there from the start. At the rear of the stage a screen carries an unrolling abstracted image of the passing from night to day to night. But this is a kind of mnemonic, separate from the set, where there is nothing of the exterior world: no natural light, no buildings. Instead, the main structural feature is a red-black wall reaching to the back, looking like the side of a boat, though it also suggests a

wave of fire caught at the point of breaking. Much of the action hangs on this precipice, but often the characters are slumped on the level in upholstered armchairs and sofas which, like most of the costumes, are jet black and look as if they have been rescued from a conflagration. This is an opera of charred beings.

But there are exceptions. When the Commendatore is killed, a child angel in a pure white costume comes slowly on to lead him away. There are more such angels, now in copper uniform, in the graveyard scene, and the white one returns to take Don Giovanni's hand at the end. In every case the effect is touching, but also a little absurd.

That may be the point. By kicking the ground from under his own feet, by walking a tightrope in full view (like his cast on the crest of the fire wave), by inviting ridicule, Albery provides an image of life being lived dangerously. This intensity of challenge

OPERA
Don Giovanni
Lyceum, Sheffield

comes out, too, in its treatment of charm, which is brisk. Zerlina and her chums, for instance, deliver their chorus in a line staring straight into the theatre: there is absolutely nothing light about it. And the same provocative manner is used for Don Giovanni's serenade and for the final sextet, where triumph is replaced by anger: after all, the singer has not just been driven to hell (the vapour and the demon here are pantomime stuff) but escaped from it.

So risky a production will obviously vary from night to night. One daring gambit that came off brilliantly on Thursday was Giovanni's assumption of a magenta evening gown and gloves while singing the Champagne Aria; another number flung straight at the

audience as an affront. It happens that this Don's most erotic relationship is with Leporello, but the transvestitism has less to do with his sexual psychology than with exemplifying a world of overturned values: a bleak carnival world that we then see in the first-act finale. This is a daring, urgent production: its weapon is the knife, not the gentlemanly sword.

That it so often cuts to the bone is largely because of a cast utterly bound up in what is going on. Robert Hayward looks and sounds superb in the title role, his singing big and violent with cruelty, defiance and despair. John Hall partners him wonderfully as Leporello: his are the hardest tasks in dealing with the tempo and in making the quality of his success is almost shocking. Helen Field as Donna Anna may be charmed with the rest, but she is also on fire with passion: her

big number in Act II is a *tour de force*, courting its own dangers of insubstantial tone, but magnificent in a manner that has nothing to do with good Mozart style. Jane Leslie MacKenzie as Donna Elvira gradually rose to an impressive brilliance and agility; she may be hampered by the fact that the production is uncertain about her seriousness.

The seriousness of Don Ottavio, though, is not in question. In this world of extremes, of sopranos and basses, he alone holds the middle ground, and he alone in this production is consistently reasonable and affecting. It may seem a backhanded compliment to say that Paul Nilon is best in the recitatives, but his singing there is so beautiful that his problems in the arias are all the more poignant. Lynne Davies and Peter Snipp are a likeable peasant couple; Sean Rea a splendidly notorious Commendatore.

PAUL GRIFFITHS

Taste of absurdity at war

Jeremy Kingston
reviews an early
Arrabal double-bill

THE ironic title of the current season at the Gate Theatre, Notting Hill, is "The Spoils of War", and sandwiched between June's Roman battles and the siege of Troy in a fortnight come two short plays by the Spaniard Fernando Arrabal, a Spaniard traumatised in childhood by his country's civil war. The plays date from the start of his career, when he was exiled in Paris during the Fifties, establishing himself as a playwright of the Absurd.

Picnic is usually known by a precise translation from its French title: *Pique-nique en Campagne* becoming "Picnic on the Battlefield", which indeed it does mean. But it can also mean "Picnic in the country". Such an ambiguity lies at the heart of Arrabal's bleakly comic squint at the world: his childlike characters responding to the ghastly truths of war as if these were upsets in a children's game.

Mary Peate's direction begins with the stage visible intermittently in the light of bursting shells. Soldiers in battle gear clamber desperately across a muddy mound.

WHEN the bombardment ceases, one soldier (Paul Stacey) is stretched there, panting, so dazed at still being alive that the pounding of his blood is all but audible. Even when his parents come to cheer him up, Stacey's incredulity at having survived remains palpable, a vital accompaniment to his parents' chatty inanities. "And you, sir," his mother inquires when an enemy soldier is taken prisoner. "Why are you an enemy? Were you born an enemy or did you become one later on?"

Only half an hour long, this neat play, straightforward once Arrabal has set it on its Absurd course, is attractively acted, shrewdly directed and worth a look. *Guernica*, the second play, works less well. Lira (Pauline Munro but never visible) is trapped under rubble in the bowels of her house and every attempt to free herself brings down more stones on top of her. Her husband (Terrence Hardiman) just footles about.

Apart from some modest *coups de théâtre*, the play's progression is obvious from early on: it is a question of waiting for the stones to cover her. The screaming raids that punctuate the talk are hair-raising, and the set (Jeremy Herbert, Mini Grey) cunningly strips the surface of the mound to uncover the broken beams of the house. But where the admirable first play is Absurd but true, the second is absurd and unreal.

JEREMY KINGSTON

TELEVISION REVIEW

Strong, lovable and good on grass

I have been in the grip of an obsession. "I love my love with an A" I scribbled feverishly during my rare moments watching non-Wimbledon 91 television this week. "No I don't. Yes I do. I love my love with an A, because he is Athletic. He lives in America, and his movements are Agile." Andre Agassi was the source of this dementia; indeed, Agassi Fever threatened to unsettle my reason. When friends asked why I had been cutting Agassi pictures from the sports pages, and placing them in a heart-shaped folder under my pillow, they say I grew agitated and babbled of green courts. I was not myself, evidently.

On Wednesday, when I discovered I had mis-recorded Agassi's blissful fourth-round victory against Eltingh, I was so distraught and exasperated that I stamped my feet on the floor and yelled a short pithy sequence of expletives, of the sort guaranteed to incur a \$10,000 fine from the International Tennis Federation. This is what sports mania can do to you: I was guilty of video abuse.

Any viewer of Wimbledon 91 will know that I was not alone in my adulation of Andre; I was not swimming against a tide. "He's a star, the boy," commented Desmond Lynam, with an indulgent smile; and during Agassi's matches, the instant playback analysis by the Wimbledon 91 commentators ("Look at the fabulous way Agassi takes this ball") was almost ludicrously partial. Close-ups of Agassi's opponents were so rare that the viewer would jump up occasionally, saying "Remind me, who is that man there - the one that isn't Agassi?" This one-sidedness suited me very well, of course: I felt that the BBC had got the balance just about right. On Thurs-

Lynne Truss on a week when hunks and hulks, ancient and modern, seemed strangely similar

day afternoon, during the women's semi-finals, they even broadcast a long-distance courtesy shot of Agassi arriving in the Wimbledon car park. Intuitively, they seemed to know that the nation was saying, "Enough of this nail-biting tennis. Tell us what's cooking with the Dreamboat."

When duty demanded it, I watched other things, but I found it hard to concentrate. Horizons (BBC 2), for example, told the story of an exciting development in paleontology, with the discovery of a rare complete skeleton of *Tyrannosaurus Rex* in the badlands of Montana. (They stopped the tennis to show us this, by the way.) *T. Rex* is everybody's favourite dinosaur, but it seems we have been labouring under many delusions concerning its true physical nature, particularly because of the inadequacy of the fossil record. *T. Rex* was quite agile, we learned, and its front legs (or arms) were incredibly strong. Now this was indeed interesting: did they say it had fast legs and strong arms? Might it, then, have made a good grass-court player? Would the power of its ground strokes have survived comparison with Andre Agassi's?

Horizon did not comment. In fact the implications of this discovery for the pre-history of Grand Slam tennis were deliberately neglected. What a missed opportunity. "Now," I thought I heard a

youthful Dan Maskell say, "Let's have a look at the Rex statistics. He's twelve feet tall, this man. Just look at those knee joints, they are really tremendous. He weighs four tons, so I'm told, and has been known to make a meal of his opponents. But on the other hand - and I'm sure Mark Cox will agree with me on this - his lack of tactical thinking does sometimes betray the fact that his brain is the size of a blackcurrant." At which Mark Cox would add (thus demonstrating the vast superiority of the human cerebral cortex), "It certainly does, Dan."

Having failed to put Wimbledon completely out of my mind, it was imperative that I try to suppress the worst of my lascivious thoughts concerning the Dreamboat's body. But even this was not easy. Perhaps it was the effect of the sudden spell of hot weather, but there seemed to be an unconscionable number of naked males on view this week. Each time I turned on the television, I felt that I had entered a strange world where trousers and shirts were unknown.

The reliably alarming series *From Wimps to Warriors* (BBC 2) (this week about the "masculine" component of homosexuality) featured a rather airy balletic scene of nude men mud-wrestling, among a myriad other testaments to fervid buttock-worship. In *First* (Thames) we were shown the initiation rites undergone by rookie firefighters, in which debasing is, of course, the obligatory preliminary. And in G.B.H. (Channel 4) not only was there some very explicit pillow-talk between Michael Murray and Barbara concerning Murray's "nudge", but there were also some



good clear take-it-or-leave-it views of both Robert Lindsay and Michael Palin arrayed without benefit of underwear.

What a baffling series G.B.H. is, though. Robert Lindsay is brilliant; Julie Walters is marvellous; but what is it about? It seems impolite to ask, when you have already sat quietly through seven-and-a-half hours, but I suddenly feel I don't trust it any more to tell me something I don't know. There is a horrible possibility that its superficial reality - a confused paranoid plot relying for illumination on a half-taken notion that the world is mad and dangerous - is busy with event in order to disguise the fact that nothing is going on underneath.

Sometimes, too, Bleasdale's exposition is shockingly inept - as when Barbara (Lindsay Duncan) revealed her identity in voice-over last week, by inwardly informing herself, "Oh Eileen Critchley, I am

'Remind me, who is that man there - the one that isn't Agassi?'

your sister" (or words to that effect). No wonder one finds oneself concentrating on the acting and the clothes.

The author's politics misfire, too. Any political message comes across less as a punch than as one of those flailing involuntary arm-jerks that the mad Michael Murray is subject to. The trouble, I think, is that Bleasdale has deliberately set up a closed world in which people obey a kind of herd-mentality. Whether they are the children at the special school, drunken daleks at a *Doctor Who* convention,

myrmidons of "Militant", or black citizens hammering in unison on the doors of the town hall, they behave like metronomic automatons that have recently stepped out of a piece of German Expressionist cinema.

Remember, in this week's episode, the people at the Fleetwood boarding-house? Frankie says to his mother "Everyone's got a dream, Mam [sic]." And she replies, "No they haven't!" - and points to the room full of happy holiday-makers, sitting identically motionless and vacant at dinner, occupied apparently with chewing the cud.

Bleasdale's problem, I think, is that, against this strange stylistic background, he wants us to be outraged at the betrayal of Mr and Mrs Citizen at the hands of cynical agents provocateurs. Which is a bit like setting your play inside a Santa's Grotto, and then complaining of the wicked people who tell you there is a Father Christmas.

Hits from the Godfather's soul

James Brown
Wembley Arena

THEY say prison does things to a man. Yet three years behind bars and three still to go on parole have had little outward effect on James Brown. After the usual introductory blarney from a comically obsequious MC, Brown appeared, resplendent in a soul-generalissimo, purple three-piece suit with gold braid and gold shoes. The band set off on a perky trot through "Living in America" while the sound engineer tried to locate Brown's voice which was buried for some time in a murky mix.

Notoriety has, of course, momentarily transformed Brown's roadshow from business as usual into the hottest ticket in town. But more fundamental forces have been at work on the Godfather of Soul's reputation in the five



Hottest ticket in town: 50-year-old James Brown

years since he last played in England. The vogue for sampling has meant that during his physical absence, snatches of Brown's performances are reckoned to have turned up on between two and three thousand rap recordings. Brown's pervasive influence on contemporary

trends has been clearer to see with every passing year, and the fingerprints of Prince and Michael Jackson are all over his work.

All of which might lead to unreasonably high expectations of a 50-year-old man whose best music was recorded between 20 and 35 years ago. His show was in essence the same as the one he played at this venue in 1986, with the addition of eight dancing girls and three backing singers.

The singers put welcome flesh on the bones of Brown's sketchy, grunted vocals, but the dancers with their half-go, half-rat-rat routines and Seventies costumes were a decorous distraction and the extra resources could have been better deployed.

Still a uniquely commanding presence, Brown planted himself at the front, and for much of the time let the session take place around him. He concentrated his dancing into little bursts of tremulous movement and, while he wisely refrained from doing the splits, he still showed tremendous finesse in his "moonwalking" and microphone-stand-biffoing routines.

His best vocal performance was "It's a Man's World". Down on his knees, bathed in aquamarine light, he gave a glimpse of the showmanship that was once so thrilling. There were flashes of the old brilliance, too, in the mannered strut of "I Got You (I Feel Good)", "Cold Sweat" and "Sex Machine", but the 90-minute show never really ignited in the way that had been hoped.

The old care-around-the-shoulders routine gave way to a reprise of "Living in America" and then he disappeared. There were no encores. He probably gave as much as we had any right to expect.

DAVID SINCLAIR

I last we have found the most perfect way to explore Russia. The opening of the waterways between Leningrad and Moscow allows us to link a visit to two great cities with a relaxing seven-day cruise that travels the Moscow and Volga Canal, the Volga River, White Lake, Baltic Canal, Lake Onega, the Svir River, Lake Ladoga and finally the Neva River. This intricate system of waterways has a beauty that is hard to describe. Serene, peaceful and timeless with silver birch and pine forests, sandy shores, calm flowing water and spectacular late sunsets, in these realms of the 'White Nights', moonlight calls will be at such historic towns as Uglich, where the blue cupolas decorated with the golden stars of the riverside church make a stunning landmark.

For many the visit to Kizhi Island in Lake Onega will be the highlight of the waterway journey. Here the magnificent Church of the Transfiguration with its 22 shimmering grey domes in three tiers are more than a match for the fairy tale splendour of Moscow's St Basil's. Leaving Lake Onega we sail along the Svir River to Lake Ladoga, Europe's largest lake, where we visit Valaam Island, a beautiful serene place well known for its several chapels and Valaam Monastery an active centre of Russian Orthodox education since its founding some 800 years ago. From the lake we enter the Neva sailing into the heart of Russia's most elegant city of Leningrad.

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THE SUNDAY TIMES
6 Sex-scenes are rarely straightforward with Susan Sarandon. Even when she is not having a lubricious lark she projects a sexual assertiveness and insouciant sassiness that women are frequently denied in films.
The star of Thelma & Louise, tomorrow, in The Sunday Times

DAVID SINCLAIR

CHANEL

9.00 Comic Book 3.00 *Crosswalk*, Young people's
 programme 7.30 *Per World* (y) *LEO Travel* World Report
9.00 News summary followed by Channel 4 Racing: *The Morning*
Line 9.25 *Stang and Seating*, Performances by jazz stars of the
 1930s and 1940s (y)
9.30 *A Century of Childhood* (y) 10.00 *Check Out* 91 (y), (Teletext)
9.30 *Wagon Train* (y/h/v), Classic Films western series
9.30 *Australian Nature Footy*, Melbourne v West Coast
9.30 *The Monsters* (y/h/v), More ghoulish laughs from America's most
 bizarre household (y)
9.40 *Flame With a Song* in *Hot* (1992), Handicrafts at the ready for
 this minimalist, non-entertaining biopic of singer Jesse Fruman
 (played by Susan Hayward) who, after suffering crippling injuries in
 a plane crash in 1942, fought her way back to stardom. Directed
 by Walter Lang
9.10 Channel 4 Racing from Sandown. Live coverage of the 3.25,
 4.10 (Corral-Eclipse Stakes) and 4.45 races
9.10 *Brookside Comedy* (y), (Teletext)
9.30 *Tour de France 1991*. This is the 78th year of France's grueling
 cycle race and the conditions are tougher than ever, with no rest-
 days, 500 kilometres added to the distance and more mountains to
 climb. The opening leg is the prologue from Paris to Lyon.
 Commentated by Phil Liggett, Paul Sherwen and Gary Kitch.
10.00 *The World This Week*
 ● **CHOICE:** After its superb coverage of the Gulf conflict, the
 international affairs series settles to matters more localised.
 Tonight's main report is from Colombia on that country's painful
 steps towards democracy. Fighting has been going on in civil war
 since the 1950s. The army and extreme right death
 squads, Colombia set up a constitutional assembly to draft a new
 constitution. For the first time, poor and minority groups are
 given a direct voice. The former M19 guerrilla group has laid down
 its arms and turned itself into a political party. But
 communist-backed guerrilla faction is still carrying on the war.
 And the country is divided over how to tackle its drug
 barons. Plus the latest from Yugoslavia and the ANC conference in
 South Africa, including News headlines and weather
10.00 *Kingdoms of the East: Land of Dragons*. Six million people live
 in Hong Kong's 23 square miles, sometimes living eight to a room,
 yet even this extremely crowded city is so small it is possible to find abundant
 wildlife (y), (Teletext)



No room at the top: David Hawtorn and Robin Givens (9.20pm)

1:30 Film: The Penthouse (1989). Above average, made-for-television suspense thriller starring Robin Givens, former wife of boxer Mike Tyson. Young Givens is kidnapped from a New York City hospital and makes his way to a plush apartment block. Wealthy record company executive Dinah 31 Cat (Givens) lives in the luxury penthouse at the top and the young man is determined to get to her at any cost. With Robert Guillaume and Donnelly Rhodes. Directed by David Greene

1:40 Splitting Back: Highlights from the Splitting Images series

1:40-2:00 Zulu (1986). Documenting mini-series recounting the story of the Zulu leader Shaka (Henry Cele). Shaka is surrounded by jealous chiefs and witch doctors intent on impeding his efforts to reconquer the various tribes into a fighting army. When an attempt is made on Shaka's life, the outcome has strong repercussions for Lt Farnell (Edward Fox) and his men. With Robert Powell and Trevor Howard

1:40pm Bhangra Beat. Series focusing on the Asian music and social scene. A look at the more contemporary side of Asian music, focusing on the Indian and Apache and talking to their producers, singers and dancers

2:10 Whirlwind

2:30 Film: The Hand of Night (1988). An unmemorable and silly horror feature. Paul Carver (William Sylvester) visits Morocco and attends a party given by an archaeologist, Gunther (Edward Underdown). There he meets two beautiful women, Chantal (Diane Clare) and Marlene (Aliza Gur), and soon becomes involved with a mysterious new woman (Michelle Williams) "The Servants of the Night". Directed by Frederick Good

4:30 The Hit Man and Her. With Paul Waterman and Michaels Strachan

5:30 TV Morning News. Ends at 6:00

9.00 **Films: An Revolver Low Eridates (1987).**
o CHOICE: A Channel 4 season devoted to the films of the French director Louis Malle opens with one of his finest works, a semi-autobiographical study of childhood under the German occupation. The film is set in a Catholic boarding school in 1944 and concentrates on one of the pupils, a character based on Malle himself, and his friendship with a secretive new classmate. The newcomer turns out to be one of three Jewish boys taken in by the church's anti-fascist headmaster to protect them from the Nazis. For a while the Germans pose no threat, even returning the boys when they are lost in the forest during a scouting expedition. Then an informer tips off the Gestapo. Malle draws superb performances from his young leads, Gaspard Manesse and Raphael Fejo, as he builds quietness and even humorously, with layers of carefully observed detail, to the tragic climax.

1.00 **Talking to Louis Malle.** The director in conversation with critic John Philip French.

1.30 **The Circle With Fire: Shows The Whole Family In Gay.** A discussion between a straight audience and gay panelists in which family members try to come to terms with each other's sexuality.

2.25 **My Brother Tom.** The first of a two-part mini-series set in a small Maine River township in 1939. Edward Cuyler (Keith Michell) is an English lawyer and staunch politician, who clashes with his son Tom (Tom Jermine) over politics, religion and love. With George Jackson (P).

1.10 **Tour de France.** A repeat of the programme shown at 8.30. Ends at 2.40

Price: \$1.00 per Dozen from 7.00 Crown
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THE WEEK'S TOP 100 The *Vergennes* of the 15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-100-101-102-103-104-105-106-107-108-109-110-111-112-113-114-115-116-117-118-119-120-121-122-123-124-125-126-127-128-129-130-131-132-133-134-135-136-137-138-139-140-141-142-143-144-145-146-147-148-149-150-151-152-153-154-155-156-157-158-159-160-161-162-163-164-165-166-167-168-169-170-171-172-173-174-175-176-177-178-179-180-181-182-183-184-185-186-187-188-189-190-191-192-193-194-195-196-197-198-199-200-201-202-203-204-205-206-207-208-209-210-211-212-213-214-215-216-217-218-219-220-221-222-223-224-225-226-227-228-229-230-231-232-233-234-235-236-237-238-239-240-241-242-243-244-245-246-247-248-249-250-251-252-253-254-255-256-257-258-259-260-261-262-263-264-265-266-267-268-269-270-271-272-273-274-275-276-277-278-279-280-281-282-283-284-285-286-287-288-289-290-291-292-293-294-295-296-297-298-299-300-301-302-303-304-305-306-307-308-309-310-311-312-313-314-315-316-317-318-319-320-321-322-323-324-325-326-327-328-329-330-331-332-333-334-335-336-337-338-339-340-341-342-343-344-345-346-347-348-349-350-351-352-353-354-355-356-357-358-359-360-361-362-363-364-365-366-367-368-369-370-371-372-373-374-375-376-377-378-379-380-381-382-383-384-385-386-387-388-389-390-391-392-393-394-395-396-397-398-399-400-401-402-403-404-405-406-407-408-409-410-411-412-413-414-415-416-417-418-419-420-421-422-423-424-425-426-427-428-429-430-431-432-433-434-435-436-437-438-439-440-441-442-443-444-445-446-447-448-449-450-451-452-453-454-455-456-457-458-459-460-461-462-463-464-465-466-467-468-469-470-471-472-473-474-475-476-477-478-479-480-481-482-483-484-485-486-487-488-489-490-491-492-493-494-495-496-497-498-499-500-501-502-503-504-505-506-507-508-509-510-511-512-513-514-515-516-517-518-519-520-521-522-523-524-525-526-527-528-529-530-531-532-533-534-535-536-537-538-539-540-541-542-543-544-545-546-547-548-549-550-551-552-553-554-555-556-557-558-559-560-561-562-563-564-565-566-567-568-569-570-571-572-573-574-575-576-577-578-579-580-581-582-583-584-585-586-587-588-589-590-591-592-593-594-595-596-597-598-599-600-601-602-603-604-605-606-607-608-609-610-611-612-613-614-615-616-617-618-619-620-621-622-623-624-625-626-627-628-629-630-631-632-633-634-635-636-637-638-639-640-641-642-643-644-645-646-647-648-649-650-651-652-653-654-655-656-657-658-659-660-661-662-663-664-665-666-667-668-669-670-671-672-673-674-675-676-677-678-679-680-681-682-683-684-685-686-687-688-689-690-691-692-693-694-695-696-697-698-699-700-701-702-703-704-705-706-707-708-709-710-711-712-713-714-715-716-717-718-719-720-721-722-723-724-725-726-727-728-729-730-731-732-733-734-735-736-737-738-739-740-741-742-743-744-745-746-747-748-749-750-751-752-753-754-755-756-757-758-759-760-761-762-763-764-765-766-767-768-769-770-771-772-773-774-775-776-777-778-779-780-781-782-783-784-785-786-787-788-789-790-791-792-793-794-795-796-797-798-799-800-801-802-803-804-805-806-807-808-809-810-811-812-813-814-815-816-817-818-819-820-821-822-823-824-825-826-827-828-829-830-831-832-833-834-835-836-837-838-839-840-841-842-843-844-845-846-847-848-849-850-851-852-853-854-855-856-857-858-859-860-861-862-863-864-865-866-867-868-869-870-871-872-873-874-875-876-877-878-879-880-881-882-883-884-885-886-887-888-889-890-891-892-893-894-895-896-897-898-899-900-901-902-903-904-905-906-907-908-909-910-911-912-913-914-915-916-917-918-919-920-921-922-923-924-925-926-927-928-929-930-931-932-933-934-935-936-937-938-939-940-941-942-943-944-945-946-947-948-949-950-951-952-953-954-955-956-957-958-959-960-961-962-963-964-965-966-967-968-969-970-971-972-973-974-975-976-977-978-979-980-981-982-983-984-985-986-987-988-989-990-991-992-993-994-995-996-997-998-999-1000-1001-1002-1003-1004-1005-1006-1007-1008-1009-1010-1011-1012-1013-1014-1015-1016-1017-1018-1019-1020-1021-1022-1023-1024-1025-1026-1027-1028-1029-1030-1031-1032-1033-1034-1035-1036-1037-1038-1039-1040-1041-1042

[illegible]

0-1 **6:00pm** **BBC SO (Phil only)** under
Rachosiewicz performs
Bruckner (Symphony no 5) &
08 Tuning Up (Phil only), with
Chris Sisco. The first two
programmes in this series
features a concert given at the
Wigmore Hall in London by
the Greg Trio, who are winners of this
year's Parkhouse Award.
Grieg (Andante con moto);
Mozart (Piano Trio G, K
594); Martin (Trio on Folk
Tunes); Britten (Piano Trio
in C, Op 17)
09 **6:30** **Jazz Record Showcase (Phil only)**
10 **6:45** **Mozart on Record (Phil only)**
The BBC Symphony - The First
Symphonies, In the first of 11
programmes, Les Black
examines the symphonies of
Mozart's little known years.
11 **6:45** **Bargainale:** The pianist,
Richard McMahon plays
Bethoven (Bagatelle, Op
119 and Op 126); Dances
(Bagatelle, Set 3)
12 **7:30** **The Birthday of the Infanta**
Carmen has been made into
Wilde's tear-jerker of a story
about the princess and the
cheating baron. Now Paul
McGrann (mercifully, not
ironically), we are well
placed to judge how fast the
cheats in other tales. And so,
at 7.45, we hear the first UK
performance of Franz
Schuler's ballet score for Der
Geburtstag der Infanta,
followed at 8.10 by Ian
Stewart's and Gower
Hughes' new English version
of Zemlinka's opera Der
Geburtstag mit Czardas.
Whitehead as the Infanta and
Gemma Hemmings-Bruce as
Wilde's doomed daughter.
Zemlinka conducted. The BBC

— 322 —

also on **PHIP** Forecast: 6.00
News Briefing, lat 6.03
Weather 6.10 Farming Week:
Livestock from the Royal
Show in Stoneleigh 6.50
Prayer for the Day 6.55
Weather 7.00 Today, lat 7.00,
7.00, 8.00 News 7.25,
6.58 Weather
News 8.05 Sport on 4
Interview with the
mountainous Coach of the
region of the southern USSR
News; Loose End; Ned
Steele reports an hour of live
interjections. Last in the series
News; The Week in
Westminster, with Peter
Jenkins, associate editor of
The Independent (s)
Europe: Gordon Clough
looking at the headlines in
the European papers
Money Box Moneycheck (new
series) The Money Box
roadshow discusses financial
advice at Dartington Hall
Devon (s)
on Kerry Haven's s Cue:
Humphrey Lyttell charts the
classic panel game (s) 12.25
Weather
News
Any Questions? Jonathan
Dimbleby is joined in the
West End of Albert Hall by
Herbert Marry, MP; Dr Ann
Thompson; Rhodri Glyn
Iwan; and David Letts (s)
1.55 Shipping Forecast
News; Any Answers? 071-680
on 12.55 in defense of
Jonathan Dimbleby with their
views on the issues raised in
Any Answers?
Saturday Playhouse: Goliath in
Roman, Thomas McClaghlin's
comedy about Stephen
(S.J. Roger) 1.55

5.00 Conversation Piece (new
series)
● CHOICE: Interviewer Sue
MacGregor has the knack of
turning her subjects towards
the unexpected, the moments
of which they might prefer not to
acknowledge publicly. The gift
is heard at its best in this
interview with television
commentator, co-founder of the
English Shakespeare
Company which spends half
the year touring about
keep his head above water.
Mainly, on his behalf, an
intimate four pictures that is
mainly grey, MacGregor that is
painting, one of the actor-
manager the revelation that he
intends to make a book about
this "damnable disorientating
life" and, moreover, that from
any moment, he is open to
offers (s)
6.25 Little Blighty on the Down
(new series) (s) 6.50
Interview 6.55 Weather
6.00 News; Sports Round-Up
6.25 Citizens; Omnibus edition
6.10 The Robert
casseroles on conversations
about the country
7.45 Classic Series: Sense and
Sensibility. The story of four-
part adaptation of Jane
Austen's novel (s)
8.45 Knowledge: Magic. The
computer and electronic
music expert Mike Steer
shows the potential of
musical instrument digital
interface (s)
9.15 Music on 4
9.50 Ten to Ten (s) 9.59 Weather
10.00 News 10.10 Open House
10.45 Ten to Ten: The Real
Robert C. Kennedy
Smith tells the rest of six true

440 Bach via Busoni: Holten
Grönroos plays Busoni's piano
transcription of the Chaconne

[illegible]

The Time Factor: Rubin Kelly asks John Williams about the moments in music which send

[illegible]

CHANNEL 4

CRANNALL 4

5.00 Trans World Sport (7) 7.00 Eurocola's Castle 7.30 Africa
J. Kwak 8.00 Sherry and George 8.30 Raiders of the South
Sea. Children's drama series 8.55 Kid 'n' Play. The animated
adventures of two characters from the film House Party
9.00 The Sound of Time 9.30 New line drama series set in
18th century state of Mysore. In Hindi with English subtitles

10.00 A Week in Politics - Second Reading, includes the housing
minister, George Young, on homelessness

10.45 Dennis. Cartoon 11.00 The Beverly HillsBells (b/w) 11.30 The
Lone Ranger (b/w). Vintage western series 12.00 The Wellborn
12.00 Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea (b/w). Vintage sci-fi
adventures

2.00 Film: Journey Together (1945, b/w). An absorbing second world
war documentary drama produced as propaganda for the Film
Training Command and written by Terence Rattigan and John
Boulting. The film follows the progression of two would-be pilot
(Richard Attenborough and Jack Watling) through their training
and the former's slow realisation of the true talents. Edwards
G Robinson appeared without fee as an American pilot-training
officer. Directed by John Boulting

3.45 Pete Smith Specialise: A Wife's Life (b/w). Dave O'Brien
explores the problems of being a 1950s housewife

3.55 The Best of For Love or Money. Updated highlights of the
antiques collecting show with special reports on French fairs
and markets and the mysterious cubist artist, Henri

4.25 Pursuit of Power. Adam Raphael interviews Labour MP
shadow health spokeswoman Harriet Harman about her personal
beliefs and values

5.00 News summary and weather

5.05 Family Party. A hand-picked scoop about three Asian families
5.30 Tour de France 1981: Lyon. The second stage - the first road
race



Endangered species: mountain cattlemen of Australia (7.00pm)

7.00 Fragile Earth: Australia's Mountain Cattlemen.
© CHOICE: For some 150 years cattle grazing in the high country of Australia has provided generations of families with a living and a way of life. It has also helped to sustain the Australian myth of the rugged individual. But the annual crusade into the Blue Mountains of New South Wales may soon be a thing of the past. The cattlemen are under attack from ecologists, conservationists, who claim that the bush is suffering the effects of the destruction of vegetation and hastening the erosion of the soil. As they aware what could be a death sentence, the cattlemen have a higher popular profile than ever before. They are a magnet for tourists: their clothes are marketed and they turn up as characters in films. If the high country is opened up, these sturdy Australians could be the last of more than 100 other traditional occupations. Whether that is preferable to bankruptcy is a nice point. (Teletext)

8.00 Time Signs. A series tracing the history of World Wars in Devon, the programme, a field with a single building holds clues to a missing village where more than 30 people lived in the 19th century.

8.30 A Sense of Belonging: Exile. A series looking at the Jewish community in Britain. Tonight's film focuses on the ways in which Jewish people have contributed to the nation since 1900.

9.00 Promised Land and how far their identity has been compromised to accommodate "Britannians"

9.30 Go Fishing. Angler John Wilson is on Northern Ireland's river Banagher with world champions Bob Nudd and Kevin Aherst

10.00 G.S.T.: Message Received. A repeat of episode five. (Teletext)

11.30 The Streets Not Like the Good Old Days. First in a new series on the realistic police show following the New Jersey officers who work where car 280. The series aims to provide an antidote to the glamorous cinematic style used for most filmed drama in the United States. With its use of (often hand-held) video cameras and location filming. Officers Peluso (Bruce MacVittie) and Scotter (Stanley Tucci) realise how difficult their job has become with little back-up support

12.00 News and Country: Rodney Crowell. The first of two programmes rounding off the series on American country music which was interrupted by Gull coverage. Featuring the Texas rocker, Rodney Crowell

1.05 Tout de France. A repeat of the programme shown at 5.30. Ends at 2.05

3.00 Pys

beginning (1985) jump the ethnic circuit into Crystal City, a campus for disturbed teenagers. Darrin John Stephens, died at 4:30

SKY SPORTS

• **is Via the Astra and Manicopa satellites.**
8:00am Test Match cricket 10:00 Basketball at Wellington 12:00 Basketball 1:00pm Cricket 6:15 Golf Shoot-Out 8:00 Wimbledon 10:00 Basketball 12:00 Wimbledon

NEUROSPORT

• **is Via the Astra satellite.**
8:00am Tennis World Cup 8:00 Basketball Final 10:30 World Championship 11:00 Football 11:30 Football 11:30a California 2:00 3:00 Eyewitness World Championship 2:00 Live Cycling Tour de France 4:00 Motorcycle World Championship 4:30 Football 8:30 8:30 Cycling Tour de France Highlights 8:30 Football USSR Cup Final 8:30 Bowling 10:00 Cycling Tour de France


LIFESTYLE

• **is Via the Astra satellite.**
12:00 Anne Clavin 12:30am Long John Silver 1:00 The John Rivers Show 7:35 The Detectives 8:50 The Hollywood 9:00 The Daily 4:00 Green Heart 4:35 Fire Caribbea (1878) 6:00 Self-Vision Shopping Channel 8:00 Core 10:00 Self-Vision Shopping Channel 12:00 Jubilee

MTV

• **is Via the Astra satellite.**
Twenty-four hours of rock and pop

11



**This blind woman
has never seen her
grandchild**

Give £12 and she will

She suffers from cataracts of both eyes, leaving her blind and totally dependent on others.

But she doesn't have to be.

Just £12 from you, a ten-minute operation, and she will see her grandchild for the very first time.

Please return the coupon with your donation now and give her the greatest gift of all. The gift of sight.

Help The Aged, St. James's Walk, London EC8 0BE.

I want to give the gift of sight

☐ £12 (Pays for a cataract operation to restore sight in both eyes)

☐ £24 (Pays for cataract operations to restore sight for two people in both their eyes)

Money is also needed for tackling some of the causes of blindness - malnutrition, poverty and bad hygiene.

I enclose my cheque/postal order for £_____ to: Help The Aged, Project 9107/MPXITF31/FREEPOST, London EC1B 1BD.

Or charge my Access/Visa card number: _____


Expiry date: _____ / _____

Signature: _____

Name
(Mrs, Miss, Mr, Other): _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____



Help The Aged
THE TIME TO CARE BEGINS
NOW. COUNCILS AND 272 7000

Summer's short lease runs out

By TIM JONES

PEOPLE who have tickets for today's Wimbledon women's final or for the Test match should pack umbrellas in their picnic hampers. Winds blowing in from the Bay of Biscay are bringing dark clouds lower temperatures, thunderstorms and showers.

The London Weather Centre said the two-day heatwave was ending, although it was not prepared to say the summer had come and gone. Wimbledon finalists will not welcome any more interruptions for rain, in the third Test at Trent Bridge, however, England may be looking to the skies for salvation after a strong recovery by the West Indies yesterday.

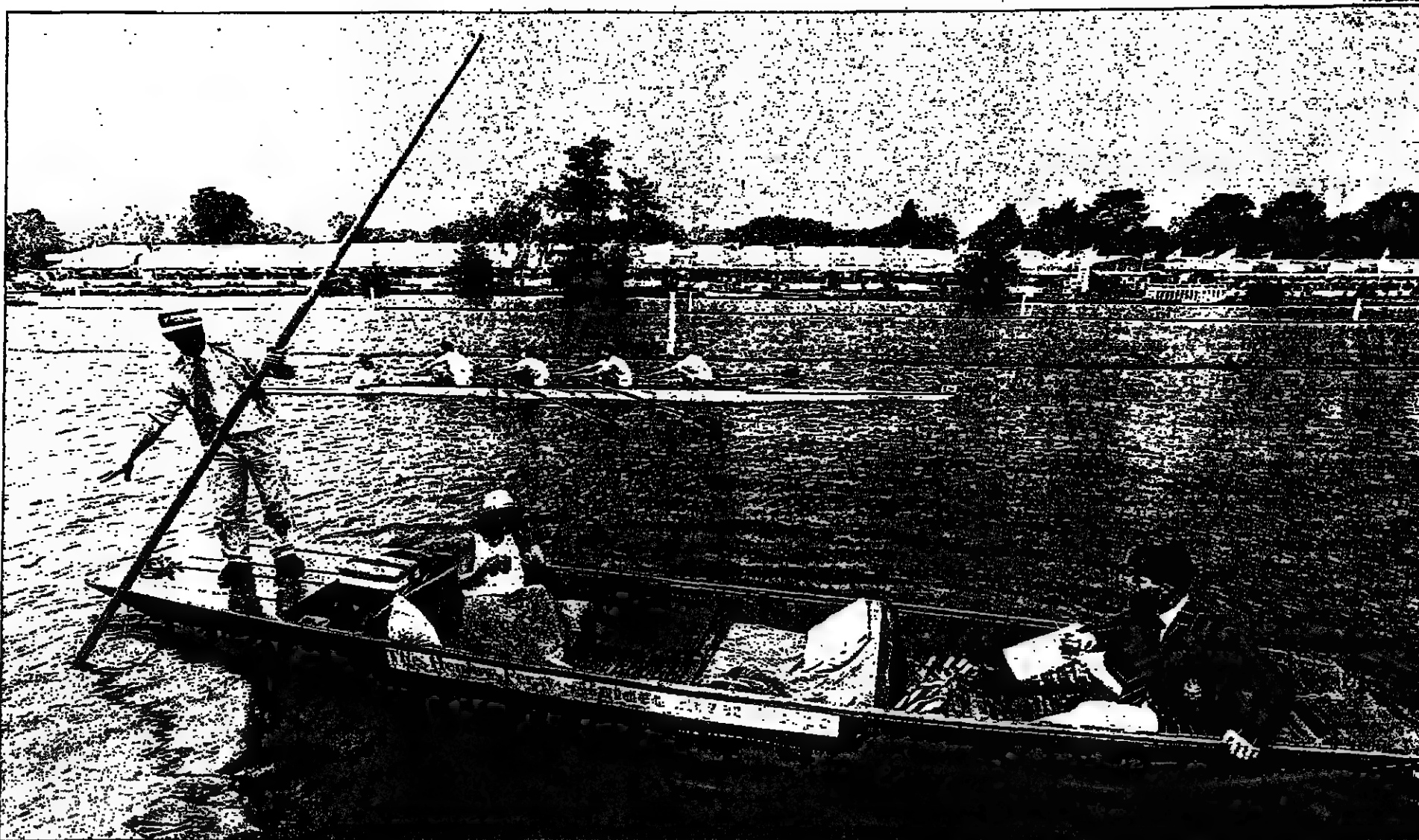
At Wimbledon The RSPCA has had to rescue 70 dogs left inside cars, where temperatures reached 108°F. The RSPCA said: "Three cruelty reports have already been filed and the owners may well be prosecuted."

After temperatures approaching the mid-80s along the Dorset coast, a return to more seasonal temperatures of about 70°F will be welcomed by hayfever sufferers and the management of Cisteria Ltd of Stroud, Glos. Cooler weather will reduce the risk of faulty bottles of Cisteria Ltd's fresh English apple juice exploding. The company has recalled about 500 bottles, explaining that because of a production problem the contents are continuing to ferment.

The hot weather is a mixed blessing for bathers; a two-degree increase in sea temperature has led to the return of weever fish, which lies buried in the sand with just its poisonous dorsal fin exposed.

The short-lived heatwave has been a boon for Britain's rarest bush cricket, *Deinoceratus verrucosus*, a two-inch insect used by Swedish peasants to bite off warts. The hot weather, following June's rain, has led to hopes of a population increase.

Nudists, page 3
Weather photograph, page 3



Slow boat to recline on: two spectators soak up the sunshine at Henley. Organisers have introduced random drug tests at the regatta for the first time this year. Report, page 39

Kinnock prepares biggest purge

Continued from page 1

from Mr Kinnock against Militant sympathisers in the Commons.

Labour leaders, however, were delighted at the margin of their victory over the Broad Left and the clear evidence provided by the contest of the public's disapproval of its activities in Liverpool. The defeat of the extremist left, they believe, will have positive electoral benefits.

Between 20 and 30 expulsions of party members who openly worked for Ms Mahmood will be set in train at a meeting of Labour's organisation committee on July 15 when Joyce Gould, the director of party organisation, makes an initial report on the by-election. This will be based

on investigations carried out during the contest by Eileen Murphy, the regional organiser, and John Evans, a national executive member.

At the same time a deeper investigation will be proceeding to see whether people who carried Mahmood posters in their homes and campaigned for her in other ways were party members. This is expected to take the expulsions figure over the 100 mark.

Party members who came to Liverpool from other areas to support Ms Mahmood and were identified by MPs and officials as they campaigned will also be ejected.

Mr Fields is likely to be discussed at the July 15 meeting. He can only be expelled if he has broken party rules,

which he has been careful not to do, and the parliamentary Labour party can only withdraw the whip from him if he has breached its standing orders.

As *The Times* reported yesterday, some influential NEC members hope that his local party, which is apparently changing in composition, might initiate action against him that would lead to him being dropped as a candidate at the general election.

One outcome of the NEC investigation might be a decision to censure Mr Fields. That would be communicated to his local party and the ball left in their court.

Militant spotting, page 2
Leading article, page 13

Fear of new Chernobyl

Continued from page 1

880 megawatts. Though not the same type as the Chernobyl reactor, the Soviet PWRs are considered outdated and ill-equipped. Two similar units at Kozloduy were shut down by Bulgaria last October.

An agency spokesman said yesterday: "We have been to Kozloduy several times, and this time we found that the situation was getting worse rather than better. This is not acceptable any longer."

The two reactors still operating at Kozloduy are Soviet pressurised water reactors (PWRs) built in the 1970s and generating a total of

likely to face problems. BCCI's biggest card is the GreenCard, which set up a charitable trust in 1989 to benefit the environment and has almost 30,000 customers. The actor Derek Nimmo and the television presenter Anne Diamond are among the trustees of the organisation, which has raised more than £200,000 for environmental groups including the Tidy Britain Group, the Brunel Rainforest Project and Orkney Seal Rescue.

Staff at the head London office of the bank were yesterday "shocked" when they returned from their lunch breaks to discover that their bank had been shut down. Throughout the afternoon a steady stream of disenchanted employees walked out of the electric doors into Leadenhall Street carrying plastic shopping bags containing the hastily gathered together contents of their drawers.

At the bank's Regent Street branch, bewildered customers stood reading a notice of explanation posted in the window.

Mr Ahmed Abdullah, a businessman from Kenya, said: "I should have known. I had a feeling things weren't going all that well, but I didn't know it would come to this."

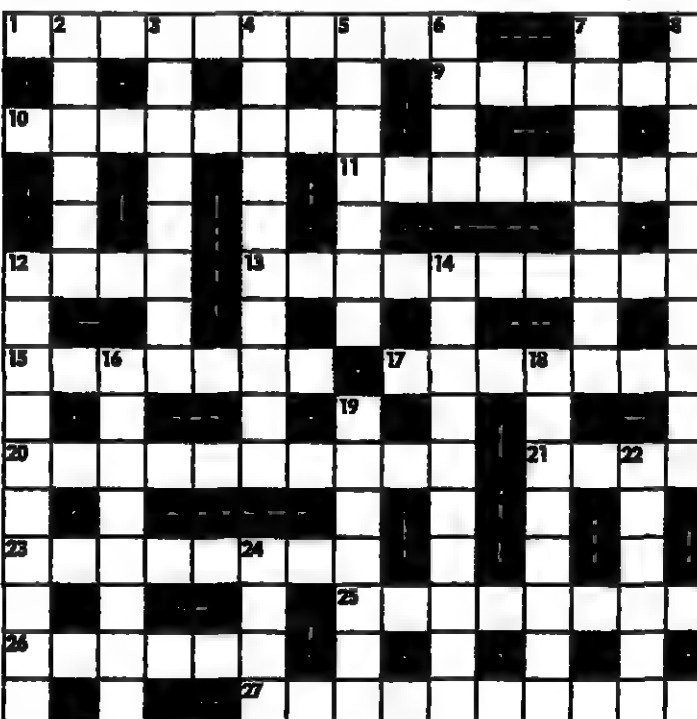
Another man, who refused to give his name, said: "It's terrible - all my money. That's it. I'm going to go for a drink now."

MONDAY IN THE TIMES

British fractions 1: An increasing number of magazines offer advice on how to... build shelves. Or an extra bathroom or a conservatory. But DIY is not the only growth industry. PTN (Paying Through the Nose) has adherents, who will fork out for anything from walking the dog to watering the plants. DIY versus PTN, in *The Times* on Monday

British fractions 2: The Office of Fair Trading lives off complaints. In Britain it is a good thing but Bernard Levin has a complaint about the OFT

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 18,651



- ACROSS**
- Mates have this day to finish the vessel (10).
 - Italian resort has the edge - fashionable one the Romans used (6).
 - Late arrival runs after one of Thackeray's heroes (8).
 - Wrong maiden is taken to celebration (8).
 - Not quite quick enough to escape (4).
 - Dessert wine's no great shakes (10).
 - A new poet appears moderately quickly (7).
 - Lack of inhibition of some players in performance (7).
 - Try improvement, for a change (10).
 - Like strong thread that's twisted round one (4).
 - See term's been rearranged as this, possibly (8).
 - Devilish name Silver had to shoulder (8).
 - Scan the American theatre for her double appearance (6).
- DOWN**
- Club first used as instrument of torture (4,6).
 - Sorry, the plant's not quite complete (6).
 - From English trees, initially, create bats and similar things (2,6).
 - Provider of quiet service that's useful for moveable feasts (4,6).
 - They live alone, - a woman's writing about it (7).
 - Feed people - those in favour (4).
 - What Marian achieved if entering partnership with Robin (8).
 - Is stolen pound put in my case in error? (10).
 - Foreign money I check for supposed poor friar (10).
 - Place to get dressed, boy, and smarten up (6-4).
 - Sounds like Alice's cat might blow up (8).
 - Oriental capital I held, possibly (3,5).
 - Rapid changes in pitch - six bowled at Oval without runs (7).
 - Dismiss a class (6).
 - Most of the capital of an Asian country (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,650

TOOTHBRUSH HERB
E I O I T L L
L O S E A D E R Z E N O
A L C O N A S E C O D
C O N T A M I N A T E D
C B N S T R M
R E P L E N I S H O V O L O
O I S R I M P V N
S A R A H I M P R O V I S E
S I A S L C Y
P U T I N T H E S P O T
A L O C A E P M
T E E M A U D I B I L I T Y
C S L N S S T
H A S H F L I G H T P A T H

Solution to Puzzle No 18,645

P A S T I C H E R U N D O W
R A N O B T I E
O C C A S I O N A L T A B L E
P U C K I S H S O C I A L M A I D
T O G E T H E R D E C A Y
P T I A H S
O T H E R S A L E S M A N
R E G A T T A D I R E F U L
D O M E S T I C S C I E N C E
O M E T G O N C R
E L A P S E L O N G S H O T

PARKER
A prize of a superb Parker Duofold International Fountain Pen, with an 18 carat gold nib and fully guaranteed for the lifetime of the original owner will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: *The Times* Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 435, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address:

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

- SITULA**
a. A rapture
b. Barley porridge
c. A bucket
- POGGE**
a. A schoolboy sneek
b. An armed bulthead
c. A German Pils
- DRANKMOCK**
a. A slattern
b. Meal and water mixed raw
c. A small whisky
- TOSEACE**
a. Prizes for everyone
b. Celtic noble below a meadman
c. An outdoor lavatory

Answers on page 13

For the latest AA traffic and roadwork information, 24 hours a day, dial 0838 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE
C. London (within N & S Circles)..... 731
M-ways/roads M4-M1..... 732
M-ways/roads M1-Dorsetford..... 733
M-ways/roads Dorsetford-T.M.S..... 734
M-ways/roads M2-M4..... 735
M25 London Orbital only..... 736
National

- National motorways..... 737
West Country..... 738
Wales..... 739
Midlands..... 740
East Anglia..... 741
North-west England..... 742
North-east England..... 743
Scotland..... 744
Northern Ireland..... 745
- AA Roadwatch is charged at 34p per kilometre (cheap rate) and 45p per minute at all other times.
- For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0838 500 followed by the appropriate code.
- Greater London..... 701*
Kent, Surrey, Sussex..... 702
Dorset, Hants & IOW..... 703
Devon & Cornwall..... 704
Wilt, Glouce, Avon, Soams..... 705*
Berk, Bucks, Oxon..... 706
Beds, Herts & Essex..... 707
Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambs..... 708
West Mid & Shropshire & Gwent..... 709
Shrops, Herefords & Worcs..... 710
Central Midlands..... 711*
East Midlands..... 712*
Lincoln & Humberside..... 713
Derby & Leics..... 714*
Gwynedd & Cwyd..... 715
N W England..... 716
W & S Yorks & Wales..... 717
N E England..... 718*
Cumbria & Lake District..... 719
S W Scotland..... 720
W Central Scotland..... 721
Edin S Fife, Lothian & Borders..... 722
E Central Scotland..... 723
Grampian & E Highlands..... 724
N W Scotland..... 725
Caithness, Orkney & Shetland..... 726
N Ireland..... 727

Weathercall is charged at 34p per minute (cheap rate) and 45p per minute at all other times.

* Includes pollen count

National Final of The Times Collins Dictionary Crossword Championship, Longham Hotel, Portland Place, London, 1.30pm tomorrow. Admission free.

The winners of last Saturday's competition are: *A. E. H. H. Tenneyan*, Cl. Woodbridge, Suffolk; *P. Kinzel*, Kilbale, Croydon; *R. V. Woodward*, Ripon Road, Stevenage; *J. E. Mead*, Plaighmans Way, Rainham, Gillingham; *G. P. H. Allen*, High Street, Musselburgh.

Concise crossword, page 15

WEATHER

Fresher but still warm weather will spread from the South-West.

Thundery showers will break out in many southwestern parts of England and Wales in the afternoon, but central and other southern areas will be mostly dry. Eastern coastal areas north of the Wash may have some fog at first. Scotland will start cloudy with sunny spells later over most western areas. Outlook: mainly dry with sunny spells.

MOORAY	GLASGOW	GLASGOW	GLASGOW	GLASGOW	GLASGOW
1000h	1000h	1000h	1000h	1000h	1000h
Altostratus	Altostratus	Altostratus	Altostratus	Altostratus	Altostratus
Clouds	Clouds	Clouds	Clouds	Clouds	Clouds
Temp	Temp	Temp	Temp	Temp	Temp
Humidity	Humidity	Humidity	Humidity	Humidity	Humidity
Wind	Wind	Wind	Wind	Wind	Wind
Pressure	Pressure	Pressure	Pressure	Pressure	Pressure
Sea	Sea	Sea	Sea	Sea	Sea
Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast

GLASGOW	GLASGOW	GLASGOW	GLASGOW	GLASGOW	GLASGOW
1000h	1000h	1000h	1000h	1000h	1000h
Altostratus	Altostratus	Altostratus	Altostratus	Altostratus	Altostratus
Clouds	Clouds	Clouds	Clouds	Clouds	Clouds
Temp	Temp	Temp	Temp	Temp	Temp
Humidity	Humidity	Humidity	Humidity	Humidity	Humidity
Wind	Wind	Wind	Wind	Wind	Wind
Pressure	Pressure	Pressure	Pressure	Pressure	Pressure
Sea	Sea	Sea	Sea	Sea	Sea
Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast

GLASGOW	GLASGOW	GLASGOW	GLASGOW	GLASGOW	GLASGOW
1000h	1000h	1000h	1000h	1000h	1000h
Altostratus	Altostratus	Altostratus	Altostratus	Altostratus	Altostratus
Clouds	Clouds	Clouds	Clouds	Clouds	Clouds
Temp	Temp	Temp	Temp	Temp	Temp
Humidity	Humidity	Humidity	Humidity	Humidity	Humidity
Wind	Wind	Wind	Wind	Wind	Wind
Pressure	Pressure	Pressure	Pressure	Pressure	Pressure
Sea	Sea	Sea	Sea	Sea	Sea
Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast

GLASGOW	GLASGOW	GLASGOW	GLASGOW	GLASGOW	GLASGOW
1000h	1000h	1000h	1000h	1000h	1000h
Altostratus	Altostratus	Altostratus	Altostratus	Altostratus	Altostratus
Clouds	Clouds	Clouds	Clouds	Clouds	Clouds
Temp	Temp	Temp	Temp	Temp	Temp
Humidity	Humidity	Humidity	Humidity	Humidity	Humidity
Wind	Wind	Wind	Wind	Wind	Wind
Pressure	Pressure	Pressure	Pressure	Pressure	Pressure
Sea	Sea	Sea	Sea	Sea	Sea
Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast

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Information supplied by Met Office

WHERE CAN A YOUNG MOTHER GO TO ESCAPE THE BRAZIL DEATH SQUADS?

Joselita is 14. She knows she is "wordless". At the age of 9 she was thrown on to the streets. She has a year old baby. In Recife, Brazil, Joselita can either sell herself, become a thief, or starve.

She already knows what it's like to be beaten up, raped, knife-slashed and robbed. That's life. But Joselita also lives in nightly terror of the death squads who "clean up" her district - and that her corpse will be dumped one morning with the garbage.

If you were Joselita, you could have one slim chance of escape - the Passage House run by Ana Vasconcelos. This refuge, sponsored by WOMANKIND (Worldwide) and Childhope UK, has already given some 300 girls respite from the violence you may have seen in recent television reports. The girls learn to respect themselves and gain the simple practical and social skills that help them take their place back in the community.

There are about 30,000 more young girls like Joselita on the streets of Recife alone. We want to give Ana Vasconcelos the financial support to open a second Passage House. Please will you help us give these girls hope?

Please return this coupon with your gift to:
WOMANKIND (Worldwide), FREEPOST, Box 222, New Street, Birmingham B2 4QA. (Reg. Charity No. 326263)

YES, I would like to make more girls like Joselita safe from the Death Squads. Here is my donation towards a second Passage House in Recife:

☐ £25 ☐ £50 ☐ £100 ☐ £ (other) _____

☐ I enclose my PO/cheque OR

☐ Please deduct this amount from my VISA/MASTERCARD

No. _____ Expiry Date _____

Signed _____ Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

WOMANKIND (Worldwide) is a very important organisation for us to help the most vulnerable girls in the world. They are young, beautiful, intelligent, brave and they need to have a future as women, and as Brazilian citizens. - Ana Vasconcelos

SATURDAY JULY 6 1991

● BUSINESS AND FINANCE 25-30
● WEEKEND MONEY 31-35
● SPORT 35-40

MONEY

Norwich to charge by areas

NORWICH Union will be the first insurance company to charge higher buildings insurance premiums to householders in areas prone to subsidence or storms. A majority of Norwich Union's customers will end up paying more for their cover. Other insurance companies say they will not be far behind and are redrawing their maps of Britain to work out how much everyone should pay.

At the moment, buildings insurance is charged on a flat rate basis, but the cost of massive increases in claims for subsidence and storm damage will be passed on to householders. Page 31

Storm survivor



Sir Derrick Holden-Brown has not found life to be all plain sailing in the last four weeks, a period that culminated in his standing down as chairman of Allied Lyons a year early after the company lost £147 million on foreign exchange dealing. He tells Gillian Bowditch that sailing his yacht home from Sweden will be easy compared with running the beleaguered company. Page 27

Dormant cash

Millions of pounds lie forgotten, concealed in old bank and building society passbooks at the bottom of drawers. Financial institutions have different ways of administering these dormant accounts. Some people expecting a windfall are doomed to disappointment. Page 32

NatWest first

National Westminster bank has launched a ten-year mortgage with a rate fixed at 11.5 per cent, the first time a leading lender has offered a fixed-rate mortgage for longer than five years. But lenders offering fixed-rate mortgages say borrowers prefer capped mortgages. Page 32

Tourist charge



Taking Eurocheques on holiday could be a costly way of paying. A bank and a hotel charged 1,000 lire (74p) for cashing each cheque. Thomas Cook explained that it wanted to make as much money as possible out of tourists. Page 34

Double trouble

More than 17,000 Nationwide Building Society borrowers were charged twice for their mortgages in June and 2,400 were still waiting for a refund and a letter of explanation four weeks later. The June mortgage rate cut led to borrowers on the annual review scheme having two direct debits taken from their accounts in the same month. Page 33

Funds sought

A business expansion scheme that will buy the homes of elderly people at a "substantial discount to the freehold market value" and lease them back to the former owners is aiming to raise £10 million. Page 33

Your views, Page 34

Few newcomers are expected to succeed in ITV franchise battle

Anglia TV and TVS likely to keep licences

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

ANGLIA Television has emerged as the likely winner in the battle for the east of England Channel 3 licence. The incumbent is understood to have outbid its most serious rival, ThreeEast.

It is also thought that the ITV contractor widely seen as most vulnerable to the competition, TVS Entertainment serving the south of England, has put in by far the highest bid for its area, leaving it in a commanding position to succeed.

The soundings from Anglia and TVS suggest that the current franchise round may see very few of the major contractors losing out to other bidders. The two still seen as in danger of losing their licences are Thames TV, which provides the capital with week-time viewing, and Granada in the Northwest.

Granada is understood to have been outbid by up to £8 million by Phil Redmond's North West Television. But the Independent Television Commission, which oversees the industry, could invoke the "exceptional circumstances" clause if it wished to award the licence to Granada.

The ThreeEast consortium, whose shareholders include Emap and Compagnie Lux-

embourgaise de Télédiffusion (CLT), which owns Radio Luxembourg, is understood to have bid less than £15 million for the licence. Insiders suggest Anglia has pitched its bid significantly higher.

East of England Television, the Richard Bannan/David Frost application, is thought to have no real chance. Although ThreeEast's application is impressive enough in terms of talent and programme plans to get it past quality hurdles, it is considered unlikely to oust Anglia.

TVS, chaired by Rudolph Agnew, is thought to have submitted by far the highest bid for the south of England licence. The company, buoyed by the last-minute financial support of Time Warner and Associated Newspapers, is said to have bid a sum approaching £30 million.

Meridian Broadcasting, the MAI-backed consortium including Michael Palin, Rowan Atkinson and Tracey Ullman, has put in the strongest challenge to TVS. But sources say its bid hovers around the £30 million mark. Both Carlton Communications and CFTV are unlikely to win TVS.

The ITC, which is now studying the applications to judge whether the bidders are "fit and proper persons", will not open the sealed bids until late August when the regulator has decided which candidates have passed the quality threshold. The results are expected in late October.

Three or four incumbents could lose out to outside challengers, although it is unlikely the ITC will wish to allow more than two major franchises to change hands.

ITV bosses have said that it would be a disaster for national network scheduling if Granada, Thames and LWT, which is thought to have been outbid by the Polygram-backed London Independent Broadcasting, were to lose their licences.

George Russell, the ITC chairman, will, however, have to present strong reasons for awarding licences to major incumbents who have put in lower bids, given the threat of judicial review.



Bidding to win: Rudolph Agnew's TVS is thought to have offered £50 million

Winchester ban is upheld

By SARA MCCONNELL

WINCHESTER Group, the former Norwich Union insurance representative, is to appeal against yesterday's High Court decision to uphold a ban, imposed by the Life Assurance and Unit Trust Regulatory Organisation, that has prevented Norwich Union from accepting business from the Winchester Group since last October.

Two judges dismissed an application by David Ross, finance director of the Winchester Group, for a judicial review of Lauro's actions. Mr

Ross claimed that Lauro failed to observe the rules of natural justice when it served an intervention order on its member, Norwich Union, on October 30.

Lord Justice Mann, sitting with Mr Justice Hadden, said that although Lauro's action had "an immediate and maybe devastating effect" on the Winchester Group, there had been no breach of natural justice.

Lauro said it had evidence of serious deficiencies in Norwich Union's system of monitoring the Winchester Group's performance and

ensuring it complied with the industry's code of conduct. It alleged that Winchester had persuaded some investors to take out a range of policies they might not be able to afford in the long term. It also claimed that investors were encouraged to surrender policies and take out new ones, to earn salesmen a commission.

Mr Ross yesterday denied these allegations. He said: "We are going to appeal. Our reputation and our ability to trade has been taken away."

Norwich Union terminated its agency with the Winchester Group on April 11.

CBI cautious on chiefs' pay rises

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

TOP managers should consider not taking up their full pay increase if they feel it might damage the running of their businesses, said the Confederation of British Industry.

The CBI was defending senior managers' pay rises after the disclosure of a further rise for John Baker, chief executive of National Power. But it is a measure of the impact of the criticisms of such increases that the business leaders' body should find it necessary to suggest managers might consider a lower increase than they are due.

Professor Doug McWilliams, CBI chief economic adviser, told business executives in London that over the next year pay reductions for senior management were more likely than increases as the lagged effects of the recession worked into performance pay.

But he said leaders had to set an example. "This means that, in some cases, even though the formula used to determine pay increases would suggest a sizeable increase, it may be more appropriate in certain circumstances for the top managers not to take an

increase or to donate a proportion to charity if they feel that taking the full increase would have an adverse effect on the running of their businesses."

In the main, though, the professor's speech was a stout defence of the increases senior managers have been receiving, including that for Mr Baker. National Power staff were told yesterday that in addition to the 59 per cent increase for which he was last week criticised by the prime minister, Mr Baker would be receiving 78 per cent more to bring his base salary to £240,000.

He said the criticism of such rises reflected the "re-emergence of the spirit of envy". He said Britain had an ambivalent attitude to success. "It is all too easy when someone is doing well to knock him. And this punishment of success has held us back."

The CBI said chief executives' pay rose 147 per cent from 1980 to 1990, almost equalling the rise in average earnings of 150 per cent. But British chief executives came eighth in the European pay league, earning only 78 per cent as much as their German counterparts.

The decline and fall of BCCI

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

BCCI is the bank that like Topsy just grew'd. Founded in 1972 by Agha Hasan Abedi, a Pakistani, the Bank of Credit and Commerce International rapidly expanded its operations in the 1970s to become the seventh largest private banking group in the world by the late 1980s.

Mr Abedi started life with the Habib Bank in Pakistan before moving on to the United Bank of Pakistan, once the country's largest private bank, and then to BCCI. He is said to have started BCCI with capital of \$2.5 million.

Mr Abedi began his operations in Abu Dhabi, where the ruler was a close friend, and created an institution seen by the financial community as cloaked in secrecy. Much of its business developed in the Third World as BCCI expanded first in the Middle East, then into Asia, China, Africa and South America.

At its peak BCCI was described as an institution founded by Pakistanis and financed by Saudi Arabians. It was said to be owned by no more than 31 shareholders, including members of the Saudi royal family, Saudi bankers and other prominent figures. One report suggested a key Saudi banking family owned 30 per cent and another 20 per cent was held by the Abu Dhabi royal family.

By 1988 BCCI was claimed to possess assets worth \$20 billion with 400 branches in 73 countries. BCCI was by now based in Luxembourg and control lay in a holding company registered in the Cayman Islands.

There were big branches in the United States, Britain and other parts of Europe but the drive to become the world's



Abedi: rapid expansion largest bank was not always smooth.

The Bank of England thwarted plans for a network of 200 branches in England and Wales. In 1988 Mr Abedi suffered heart problems. And then in the autumn of 1988 American Customs struck the bank with Operation C-Chase.

After a two-year investigation, including undercover work culminating in a sting operation, the bank was indicted for money laundering and accused of working for the cocaine cartels of Colombia. Forty suspects were rounded up in America and British Customs investigators searched the bank's London headquarters. Arrests were also made in Britain and France.

According to the American indictment in 1988, the bank turned drug money in the United States into certificates of deposit at its American branches. Bank officials then created phoney loans at other branches abroad where the traffickers could withdraw the funds. Last year the bank was fined \$15 million in Florida after pleading guilty to laundering \$32 million; six executives were jailed. Two men were convicted in London and an official has been extradited from Britain to America.

Last year the bank was taken over by Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan al-Nahyan, the ruler of Abu Dhabi. Its troubles were still not over. Earlier this year the Panamanian authorities began suing the bank for deposits in London linked to the deposed dictator Manuel Noriega.

US investigators relieved by Bank of England's action

FROM SUSAN ELLICOTT IN WASHINGTON

AMERICAN investigators were relieved that the Bank of England had, at last, begun to co-operate in the examination of BCCI. Grand jury enquiries into the bank's operations are proceeding in Washington, Miami and Tampa, while Robert Morgenthau, one of America's toughest and most respected state prosecutors, has been investigating BCCI's myriad alleged offences for two years. The Federal Reserve, too, has put its enforcement division onto the BCCI case.

The off-shore institution, registered in Luxembourg, fell under close scrutiny last year when it pleaded guilty before a federal court in Tampa, Florida, of a large money laundering scheme. Manuel Noriega, began investigating BCCI as

early as 1987 with Jack Blum, his then legal aide.

Recently it was discovered that the bank for years had covertly owned a controlling stake in First American Bankshares, the American capital's largest bank holding company. This cast a cloud over Clark Clifford, a leading figure in the Democratic party for 40 years and First American's chairman. Mr Clifford and Robert Altman, his legal partner, have denied that they wittingly were frontmen for BCCI's founder, Agha Hasan Abedi, a Pakistani banker who wanted to use their considerable political influence in Washington to extend his international banking system into America.

Other figures investigating BCCI include John Kerry, a Democratic senator from Massachusetts. As chairman of a congressional foreign relations subcommittee that oversees terrorism, narcotics and smuggling, Mr Kerry began investigating BCCI as

Regulators act, page 1

Mountleigh falls by a third after rights issue

By MATTHEW BOND

SHARES in Mountleigh, the property group, lost a third of their value yesterday after the company launched a deeply discounted, two-for-one rights issue to avoid breaching its banking covenants.

Clive Strowger, Mountleigh chief executive, denied the rights issue represented an attempt to rescue the company, which finished its financial year end in April with net borrowings of £610 million and gearing of 104 per cent. "I would not describe it as a rescue. The fact is that our debt at the full year was higher than it was in the first half because we failed to reach our cash targets."

A new agreement reached with the company's bankers, however, is conditional on the new equity being raised.

Mountleigh's need for cash had been well trailed in advance, but there was dismay at the size of the discount. The new shares are being issued at their par value of 25p, almost 54 per cent below yesterday's opening price of 54p. The shares closed down 18p at 36p.

The issue of over 420 million new shares has heavily diluted existing shares. In the 12 months to April, net assets per share fell from 262p to 223p. A pro forma balance sheet indicates that after the rights issue, NAV falls to 94.5p a share.

The company's preliminary results accompanied the issue. They revealed pre-tax losses of £96.1 million for the year to end-April, double last year's losses. Falling property values forced the board to make provisions of £80.3 million.

Despite the second successive year of heavy losses, the company is paying a final dividend of 0.75p, down on last year's 3.5p, making a total of 2p (4.75p).

In the City, the level of expenses associated with the rights issue caused some surprise. A total of £105 million is being raised, but only £96 million will be left after expenses.

A spokesman said the expenses were mainly linked to the new agreement that the company has reached with its bankers, rather than to the rights issue, which has been underwritten by UBS Phillips & Drew.

Complex sub-underwriting arrangements for the rights issue further increase the cosmopolitan nature of Mountleigh's shareholder register.

Temps, page 28

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A matter of honour has finally sunk the man who escaped wartime mines and dodged hostile bids

Survivor sails out of stormy waters

BUSINESS PROFILE
 By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

Sir Derrick Holden-Brown

The chairman of Allied-Lyons stepped down this week after the group revealed unexpected losses. It is a sad end to a 40-year career

Sir Derrick Holden-Brown will spend the next four weeks sailing his brand new 45-foot Halberg Rassy yacht back to his home in Lynton, Devon, from the yard in Sweden where it has been built.

No matter how rough conditions are in the Baltic Sea it will be plain sailing compared with the events of the past few months.

Chairman of Allied-Lyons, one of Britain's largest food and drinks companies, for the last nine years, he stood down a year early at Thursday's annual meeting after the company lost £147 million on foreign exchange dealing. It is a sad end to a 40-year career in the drinks industry.

But Sir Derrick is nothing if not a survivor. He has escaped death twice in naval actions during the war that killed many of his ship's company. His business career has not been without its bombshells either.

In 1985, he fought off a hostile takeover bid by Elders DXL, the Australian group, only to face the threat of an aggressive shareholder in the form of Alan Bond. The latest upset is unlikely to depress his relaxed style or dent his optimism.

The decision to go now was taken entirely on his own. Clifford Hatch, his finance director, had already resigned and Richard Martin, his chief executive, also decided to leave early in one of the most extensive bouts of corporate blood-letting the City has seen for some time.

"The buck stops here," says Sir Derrick. "I am not responsible for the actions of the treasury department but I am responsible for the appointment of senior people. I had just said the responsibility lies in that department. That would be totally wrong."

"You can't know everything that is happening in a company of this size but you can't escape responsibility for things that happen in head office. Quite a large number of people suggested that I should not go, but I did it for what I believe to be the right reasons and I think I will live with myself more easily."

Cathy Narcisi, his secretary, who has worked with him for 20 years, believes the decision

is in keeping with his character.

"He's an extremely honourable person. He hates doing what he sees as the wrong thing. He always does things properly and does not like slapdash work. He is polite and always a gentleman. He can be frank, but never in a nasty way. If he thinks he has been unjust he will put it right straight away, and say, 'I'm sorry, I was wrong'."

Lord Laing of Duffhill, an old friend of Sir Derrick's, says: "If I had to choose someone to cross the Sahara desert with, I would unhesitatingly choose Derrick. He is cheerful and reliable. You wouldn't wake up in the morning and find your water had disappeared."

"He's had a great career at Allied-Lyons. This latest incident is just a blip. He has been an excellent chairman. His decision to stand down is very courageous and very proper, absolutely typical of him."

Sir Alex Alexander, Allied-Lyons' former deputy chairman, agrees. "We are all very saddened that his career has ended on this note but he's a very honourable person and has a strong sense of duty. It will be his long career, his demeanour and behaviour that will be remembered."

Sir Derrick is a paternalistic chairman with an old-fashioned sense of propriety. He sounds like a BBC radio announcer from the Fifties, but in spite of the suit, he looks every inch the weather-beaten sailor. It may be 45 years since he

left the navy, but he still bears the hallmarks of that institution. He is a dapper of "P" and "A" class. His sentences are disciplined and his thoughts regimented. "I'm a very tidy person. I think I got that from the navy. If you lost a bit of kit on the boat it went into the scum bag kept by the purser and you had to pay up to a shilling to get it back. If you didn't have a full kit you were in trouble." The navy taught



Old-fashioned sense of propriety: Sir Derrick is leaving Allied-Lyons after large losses on foreign exchange deals

him more than just how to keep a tidy sock drawer, and had it not been for the injuries he sustained during the war it is likely he would have made it his career.

He joined up as an ordinary seaman as soon as he was old enough. The war was in its second year and he started off on the lower deck of a freight mine sweeper in the North Sea. The ship was coal-

burning and Sir Derrick spent a rather dirty five months carting baskets of coal around on his head before joining one of the officers' training establishments. He was commissioned as a midshipman three months later at the age of 19. He served

most of the war with the coastal forces, first as navigating officer on a motor gunboat in the Mediterranean and then off the Italian coast.

In October 1944, his ship

was sunk by a mine four miles east of Venice. He survived the ordeal completely unscathed and a fortnight later was back in Malta commanding a motor torpedo boat.

"A mine is a big thing. It can sink a cruiser and it blows a motor gunboat to smithereens. But you can be lucky and the first time I was very lucky."

His luck ran out six months later. His ship was sunk on a mine in March 1945 at the north end of the Adriatic. He sustained a broken leg and burns, as well as the effects of being in the water for an hour and a half.

He was in hospital for the best part of a year. For him the war was over.

"I still remember the night it happened. It was about 3am. The force of the blast must have knocked me out but I suddenly became conscious of lying on a piece of decking and the water just rapidly coming up around me. I realised at once what had happened because I'd had the experience before and I was just grateful that I was able to swim, albeit a bit painfully."

"I was also lucky in that I was upwind of 100-octane

petrol that was burning on the top of the water."

"I felt confident that I would be rescued. When you are 21 or 22 you live in the most marvellously optimistic world. Once I knew I'd survived the initial hit, I knew I'd be OK. I was wearing protective clothing and I had not been asleep at the time, which was lucky."

He lost many friends in the disaster. About half the ship's company was killed or wounded. "We lost people first time, but we didn't catch fire. Second time it was much more destructive."

He was invalided out of the navy in 1946 after briefly working in the Admiralty. "I felt a bit sad because I enjoyed the navy so much there was a time when I thought I might try to make a career of it, but after March 1945 there was no question of that. I wouldn't have been fit enough."

Before joining the navy, Holden-Brown had taken the advice of his father, a director of United Drapery Stores, who suggested that some experience with a firm of chartered

accounts might stand him in good stead. He describes his father as "a very wise man", who, among other things, prevented his mother from naming him Valentine. He was born on St Valentine's day 1923.

Sir Derrick completed his articles in 1948 and immediately decided to leave the profession for a more exciting career in industry. The first suitable job that came along was with Hiram Walker, the Canadian drinks group. He spent five years in the company's London office, leaving in 1954 to join Ind Coope, the brewer that formed the basis of Allied-Lyons. Today, the group is capitalised at

£4.5 billion and includes brands such as Canadian Club, Teachers whisky, Tia Maria, Courvoisier brandy, Chateau-Lafour wines, Tetley teas, Lyons cakes and Lyons Maid ice

cream. The group also brews Skol lager and Castlemaine XXXX under licence. Many of the brands were acquisitions made under Holden-Brown's stewardship.

Many in the City feel that the foreign exchange loss has made Allied-Lyons more vulnerable to takeover. Holden-Brown disagrees, although he admits that the break-up value of the company is considerably more than its current value in the market.

"I don't underestimate the importance of that event," he says of the currency loss.

"It should never have happened, but it happened in an isolated department. They got things wrong, which led to a major loss."

"But if I could put it into perspective, it was £150 million, £100 million after tax. Our market capital is not far short of £5 billion."

"I don't for one minute believe it is really a signal to the market place that we are vulnerable to a takeover bid."

Any predator who thinks Allied would roll over without a fight, however, would be wrong.

"Our experience in the middle and late Eighties with Elders and Alan Bond is fresh in our minds. We can re-establish the war team very quickly with all the experience we've had."

"It only has to be brought out and dusted off. It's all there."

What upsets him more about the foreign exchange loss has been the suggestions in the City and the press that he ignored vital warning signals about the unhealthy extent of his treasury department's involvement in currency dealing.

"There were a lot of reports which were wildly inaccurate. I did not have three telephone calls from the Bank of England."

"I had one very low key telephone call asking one question, as a result of which I pushed very hard to get our finance director and chief treasurer in through the Bank of England's doors. They brought back a reassuring report. In September, one of our dealers

escalated his position. I thought that was a very serious breach of rules. There were reasons why he was asked to stay on. That in itself was a breach of rules of which I was fully aware, but it was not in itself a major event. It was a management matter. It wasn't until after the end of the financial year in March that the currency problem came to light."

The group is now rebuilding its credibility and reassuring

shareholders. Sir Derrick's successor is Michael Jackman and the new chief executive is Tony Hales. Both have had years of experience with the group.

The name of a new finance director, recruited from outside, will be announced soon.

Sir Derrick is likely to spend much of his retirement on his yacht. He has always enjoyed sailing and describes it as the best therapy he knows. Pat, his Canadian wife, does not enjoy sailing but is tolerant of his love of the sea.

They met when he was working for Hiram Walker. "She walked into my office with some friends looking for some Canadian Club, which was in short supply," Sir Derrick recalls.

"I don't think I was very helpful."

"We married in England and decided live here, but we go back reasonably frequently to Canada where we have quite a few friends."

They have two children: Jeremy, who until recently worked for the Bond Corporation in London, and Heather, a publishing editor with the BBC. Both of sail.

All Sir Derrick's boats are called Aqualeo and he retains the name when he sells one. He and his wife are both Aquarians and his children are both Leos.

"There's an old superstition that it's unlucky to change the name of a boat, but that's the other chap's problem," he says.

One other regular crew member is his brother, Geoffrey, a retired chartered accountant. Sir Derrick's home overlooks the sea at Milford-on-Sea, Hampshire, and he has a pied-à-terre in London.

He will continue as deputy chairman of Sun Alliance, the insurance company, until next year and is likely to stay on as chairman of the Portsmouth Naval Heritage Trust. In addition, he intends to devote more time to the garden and the church.

"I've been conscious of religious matters all my life. I wouldn't want to be without religious belief, but I'm not as active or as regular a church-goer as I was in the early days. I think I will go more regularly when I retire."

Despite the difficult times over the past few months he has retained his sense of humour, which his secretary describes as "puckish", and has not lost his temper.

"I regard it as a personal weakness if you lose your temper. No tempers are ever lost on my boat and there is no shouting."

"Most people have never seen me lose my temper. If I do lose it, it is to achieve an objective rather than for the sake of being difficult."

"I learned at an early age that it was better to be an optimist, rather than to look on the dark side."

Germans link with IBM on new microchip technology

Siemens scorns European protection

SIEMENS, the German electronics company, issued a stern warning to the European Commission yesterday to refrain from moves to protect the ailing European electronics industry from outside competition.

The warning was made at a press conference by Karlheinz Kaske, the president of Siemens, and comes a day after Siemens and IBM decided to launch a joint venture company for the production of the new generation 16 megabyte computer chips.

The deal is widely seen as a snub to the European computer industry, in particular to Bull, of France, and Philips, with which Siemens is co-operating in the research and development of semiconductor technology under the European Jessi project.

The link-up with IBM has also been interpreted as a determined statement by Siemens that there exists no unique European solution to stop the rising tide of Japanese predominance in the market for semiconductors and computer chips, and that the German company is increasingly looking towards America for future collaboration.

Herr Kaske said yesterday: "I would caution against any measures which would shelter us from the harsh wind of international competition. The very challenge of intense competition still remains the best way to avoid being lulled into a false sense of security and being caught napping."

His remarks also closely follow efforts by the commission to achieve a joint European approach in the electronics and computer sectors, after a financially disastrous year for most European com-



Single-market sceptic: Herr Kaske warned against hiding from world competition

puter makers, and a recent decision by the French government to step up subsidies to Bull and Thomson. Herr Kaske said he regarded these developments "with concern" if the effect was to retain uncompetitive business areas.

In a thinly veiled reference to the French government, Herr Kaske said: "I am not one of those people who indulge in endless tales about Europe lagging hopelessly behind Japan, or who make even broader generalisations about a declining European economy. Such statements are often coupled with equally unthinking calls for a protective wall against so-called unfair Japanese competition."

"Rather than surrounding ourselves with trade barriers," he added, "we must first put our own house in order. We must create a genuine single

market, before seeking blanket protection against unfair incursions from abroad."

Herr Kaske said he was sceptical about the single mar-

'Rather than surrounding ourselves with trade barriers, we must first put our own house in order'

ket in the electronics and telecommunications industry, pointing out that Siemens had not yet received a single government order from France. He added that there

was no question of Siemens participating in a capital increase for Bull. Nor will Siemens agree to participate in a merger of Europe's leading electronics companies.

Siemens' growing self-confidence partly stems from a better than expected business performance during the first eight months of the current financial year, which ends in September. Herr Kaske said that net profits for the whole financial year, originally expected to stagnate, would show a modest rise unless there was a deterioration in the capital markets during the remainder of the year.

During the first eight months orders increased by 18 per cent to DM54.3 billion because of the company's expansion into eastern Germany and the consolidation of Siemens-Nixdorf Informa-

tionsysteme (SNI). SNI will this year announce a substantial loss, due to difficulties of the integration of Siemens' and Nixdorf's computer business and the worldwide economic slowdown.

Siemens also projects a loss in excess of DM100 million in its component business. But the strong sales growth led to an upwards revision of the current-year sales forecast, from DM76 billion to almost DM80 billion.

Dr Hermann Franz, a director in charge of business planning, confirmed that Siemens' target to achieve 20 per cent of its revenues in America by the end of the decade still holds good, despite the unexpected, strong increase in the company's domestic and European business. Siemens and IBM will start producing the 16-megabyte chip at IBM's factory in Corbeil-Essonnes, near Paris, by the end of this year. The deal, believed to involve investment in excess of DM1 billion, follows a recent announcement by Toshiba of Japan to start 16 megabyte chip production in September.

Although IBM and Siemens insist that the deal is open to outside participation, Herr Kaske nevertheless cautioned yesterday that this was dependent on the participant's "liquidity", which amounts to an implicit exclusion of most European computer makers.

Dr Kaske insisted that the deal was a one-off arrangement and that Siemens and IBM would otherwise continue to compete against each other, particularly in the systems market.

WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU
European Business Correspondent

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Familiar ring of separate tables at Mountleigh

THERE was something familiar about the news that under the terms of the £96 million rights issue there would be "separate arrangements" for Nelson Peltz and Peter May, two of Mountleigh's three managing directors, and for the Gordon Getty trust, whose representative completes the management triumvirate.

Long-suffering shareholders have got used to separate arrangements at Mountleigh. There were separate arrangements 20 months ago when Tony Clegg, the outgoing chairman, sold his 22.6 per cent stake to Messrs Peltz and May for 200p, 60p or so above the price other shareholders could sell at. They were there again six weeks ago when the Getty trust paid 100p a share for half the stake owned by the American duo, 23p above the then market price.

The £23 million raised by that deal must have made Mr Peltz's and Mr May's decision to participate in a subscription for 95 million new shares at just 25p rather easier. How many other Mountleigh shareholders can have been fortunate enough to raise £23 million six weeks before a two-for-one rights issue?

In spite of being warned rather unsubtly, the full horror of what accompanied the cash call still took the market by surprise. The shares tumbled from 64p to 36p in response to the deeply discounted and dilutive issue price of 25p. Pre-tax losses were £36.1 million, double the already impressive £46.8 million loss clocked up last year. Once again, most of the damage was done by sliding property values, prompting provisions of £80.3 million, and a soaring interest bill, which rose from £33 million to £53 million.

Provided that shareholders decide they have no choice but to stump up the rights issue cash, the proceeds will repay a small part of the company's £610 million of borrowings, cutting gearing from 104 per cent to 75 per cent. Any further reduction is then dependent on Mountleigh's success in disposing of the £400 mil-

lion of British property it hopes to sell in the next 18 months.

Assuming Mr Peltz and Mr May have the good grace to return from America, where they apparently spent yesterday, the extraordinary meeting scheduled for July 29 should be lively. Avoid.

Tiphook

BY its results for the year to end-April, Tiphook has proved the wisdom of not having all its eggs in one basket — or indeed all its trailers on one road.

The recession has passed it by and the wide geographical spread of interests, complemented by acquisitions, saw 1991 pre-tax profits rise 130 per cent to £76.1 million, on a 73.5 per cent increase in turnover to £303.1 million.

Gross margins advanced from 60 per cent to 62 per cent, and a further improvement is likely as management makes assets sweat more. The low tax charge (a mere 6.7 per cent) will assist the percentage growth in net earnings for some time.

Gearing is typically high for a group heavily involved with rental operations, but interest cover is up from 1.8 times to 2.3 times. A final dividend of 10.3p (6.5p) sees the total rise by 50 per cent to 13.8p.

Tiphook aims to spread further its operational net within Europe ahead of 1992, while its investment profile should rise following stock exchange listings in New York and Hong Kong this year. Latest results include a full 12 months from Sea Containers, but Tiphook wants to prove that it is organic growth that really makes it tick. Containers look like remaining the backbone of international trade, and Tiphook finds recession in one area all but offset by growth in another.

On a like-for-like basis, this year's profits could reach £90 million (£76.1 million) to put the shares at 475p, up 22p, on prospective 6.2 times earnings.

The shares are a buy.

Bid talk centres on insurers as Generali looks to expand

BID speculation is reviving and yesterday it centred on the composite insurers where there is talk of a bid from Generali of Italy, one of Europe's biggest insurance companies.

This week, Generali told shareholders at its annual meeting that it wanted to expand further in Europe and was looking at several sizeable bid opportunities. Britain seems a likely place as any to start.

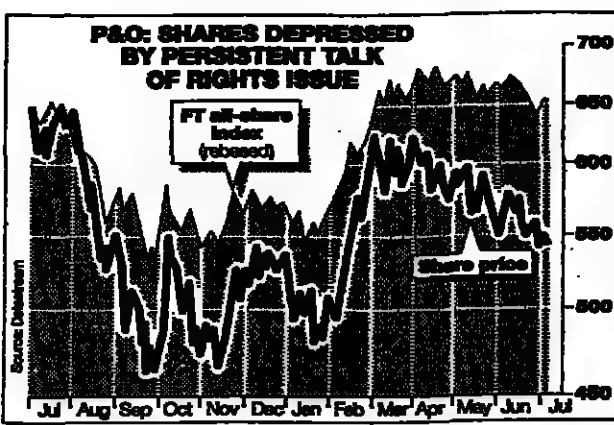
A number of large insurance companies are looking vulnerable to a bid, after several years of downturn and heavy insurance losses.

The betting among the speculators is that Generali would like to get its hands on General Accident, 13p better at 554p, or even Guardian Royal Exchange, 2p better at 192p. But it is felt that the latter's discount to asset value is not as attractive as that of General Accident.

Meanwhile, Commercial Union, that old takeover favourite, jumped 5p to 516p, and Trade Indemnity rose 3p to 63p while Sun Alliance firmed 1p to 365p.

The rest of the equity market was squeezed higher in thin trading with market-makers continuing to find themselves short of stock.

Dealers said sentiment was helped by the improved showing of the Conservative party in the latest political opinion polls. The FT-SE 100 finished



the session 14.3 higher at 2,494.7, with a total of 489 million shares changing hands. The FT index of 30 shares added 6.8 to 1,911.5.

Share prices have risen almost 3 per cent this week, helped by the growing prospect of lower worldwide interest rates.

Government securities continued to make headway on the prospect of cheaper money, sporting gains of £4 at the longer end.

Strong gains were reported among the water companies, which went ex-dividend on Monday. The water package soared £110 to £2,825. It is due to cease trading next Friday. There were also gains for Anglian, 16p to 296p, Northumbrian, 10p to 290p, North West, 12p to 285p, Severn Trent, 8p to 256p.

General 5742.42 (-10.91)
Paris CAC 467.88 (-2.78)
Frankfurt DAX 1618.91 (+2.80)

Denotes latest trading price

MAJOR INDICES

Index	Value	Change
New York	2,494.7	+14.3
Dow Jones	2,494.7	+14.3
S&P Composite	374.53	+1.20
London	2,494.7	+14.3
Nikkei Average	2,286.34	+27.27
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FT-SE 100	1,911.5	+6.8
FT-SE 250	1,988.71	+1.24
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Denotes latest trading price

MAJOR INDICES

Open	2583.3	+0.8	SEMI TRADING TRANSACTIONS		
High	2583.3	+0.8	Oil, Petroleum		
Low	2583.3	+0.8	Oil, Petroleum		
Close	2583.3	+0.8	Oil, Petroleum		
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Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Johnson Matthey	Industrials S-K	
2	Matthew Clark	Real Estate	
3	Read Ltd	Newspapers/Pub	
4	Sainsbury J	Food	
5	Shandwick	Paper/Print/Adv	
6	Colson	Financial	
7	Hemmington	Property	
8	Whitbread A	Breweries	
9	Avon Rubber	Industrials A-D	
10	Reed Executive	Industrials L-R	
11	Bass	Breweries	
12	Salvage (Chain)	Food	
13	Stand Chart	Books/Discount	
14	Grig	Transport	
15	Straw & Fisher	Shoes, Leather	
16	Marshall Spencer	Drugs/Stores	
17	Nat Amex Ltd	Industrials L-R	
18	BOC	Industrials A-D	
19	Rank Org	Industrials S-K	
20	Sidley	Industrials L-R	
21	Avonchair (Hem)	Books/Discount	
22	Land Sea	Property	
23	Thames Water	Water	
24	Avon R Ports	Transport	
25	Raymond Hall	Paper/Print/Adv	
26	Unilever	Food	
27	Home Counties	Industrials S-K	
28	Blue Circle	Industrials A-D	
29	Allied Irish	Books/Discount	
30	Whitbread	Industrials L-R	
31	Medeva	Industrials S-K	
32	Dunhill	Drugs/Stores	
33	Wells Water	Water	
34	Ranger	Oil/Gas	
35	Nita Foods	Food	
36	PR Group	Metals/Aircraft	
37	RMC Co	Building/Roads	
38	Essex	Industrials L-R	
39	Shaw Water	Water	
40	Essex	Industrials S-K	
41	Essex	Industrials L-R	
42	Essex	Industrials S-K	
43	Essex	Industrials L-R	
44	Essex	Industrials S-K	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in today's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

The Portfolio Platinum prize was shared by two readers yesterday, M Griffin, of Southampton, and Yvonne Birry, of East Barnet, Hertfordshire, each receive £1,000.

BRITISH FUNDS

1990-91 FUND PERFORMANCE RANKING (BY ASSET CLASS)

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

Fund	1990-91	1989-90
1	1	1
2	2	2
3	3	3
4	4	4
5	5	5
6	6	6
7	7	7
8	8	8
9	9	9
10	10	10

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

Fund	1990-91	1989-90
1	1	1
2	2	2
3	3	3
4	4	4
5	5	5
6	6	6
7	7	7
8	8	8
9	9	9
10	10	10

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

Fund	1990-91	1989-90
1	1	1
2	2	2
3	3	3
4	4	4
5	5	5
6	6	6
7	7	7
8	8	8
9	9	9
10	10	10

UNDATED

Fund	1990-91	1989-90
1	1	1
2	2	2
3	3	3
4	4	4
5	5	5
6	6	6
7	7	7
8	8	8
9	9	9
10	10	10

INDEX-LINKED

Fund	1990-91	1989-90
1	1	1
2	2	2
3	3	3
4	4	4
5	5	5
6	6	6
7	7	7
8	8	8
9	9	9
10	10	10

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

Fund	1990-91	1989-90
1	1	1
2	2	2
3	3	3
4	4	4
5	5	5
6	6	6
7	7	7
8	8	8
9	9	9
10	10	10

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Advance continues

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began July 1. Dealings end July 12. Contango day July 15. Settlement day July 22. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	Vol
100	98	99	99	+1	+1.0	100
100	98	99	99	+1	+1.0	100
100	98	99	99	+1	+1.0	100
100	98	99	99	+1	+1.0	100
100	98	99	99	+1	+1.0	100

High	Low	Open	Close	Change	%	Vol
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100	98	99	99	+1	+1.0	100
100	98	99	99	+1	+1.0	100

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100	98	99	99	+1	+1.0	100
100	98	99	99	+1	+1.0	100
100	98	99	99	+1	+1.0	100

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100	98	99	99	+1	+1.0	100
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100	98	99	99	+1	+1.0	100

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100	98	99	99	+1	+1.0	100
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100	98	99	99	+1	+1.0	100
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100	98	99	99	+1	+1.0	100
100	98	99	99	+1	+1.0	100

45	26	Boise Inv	30	41	-	17	65	472
155	305	Br Wls & Sls App	235	260	-	17	11	11.7
155	223	Br Futures	235	267	-	11.5	11	11.7

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MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was up at 89.8 (day's range 89.5-89.8).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Rate	Range	Close	1 month	3 month	6 month
Mid Rates for July 5					
American	82.915-82.915	82.920-82.920	15-10p	15-10p	15-10p
Brussels	80.49-80.52	80.52-80.52	15-10p	15-10p	15-10p
Frankfurt	11.3678-11.4220	11.3678-11.4220	15-10p	15-10p	15-10p
London	14.900-14.930	14.910-14.930	15-10p	15-10p	15-10p
Paris	82.921-82.930	82.925-82.940	15-10p	15-10p	15-10p
Frankfurt	35.29-35.29	35.29-35.29	15-10p	15-10p	15-10p
London	14.900-14.930	14.910-14.930	15-10p	15-10p	15-10p
Mid Rates for July 5					
American	82.915-82.915	82.920-82.920	15-10p	15-10p	15-10p
Brussels	80.49-80.52	80.52-80.52	15-10p	15-10p	15-10p
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London	14.900-14.930	14.910-14.930	15-10p	15-10p	15-10p
Paris	82.921-82.930	82.925-82.940	15-10p	15-10p	15-10p
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Brussels	80.49-80.52	80.52-80.52	15-10p	15-10p	15-10p
Frankfurt	11.3678-11.4220	11.3678-11.4220	15-10p	15-10p	15-10p
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Paris	82.921-82.930	82.925-82.940	15-10p	15-10p	15-10p
Frankfurt	35.29-35.29	35.29-35.29	15-10p	15-10p	15-10p
London	14.900-14.930	14.910-14.930	15-10p	15-10p	15-10p

Premiums on 3p. Discount on 6p.

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina dollar	1988.7-1988.7	1988.7-1988.7
Australian dollar	2.1007-2.105	2.1007-2.105
Belgian franc	0.0002-0.0008	0.0002-0.0008
British pound	0.7174-0.7181	0.7174-0.7181
Canadian dollar	0.7085-0.709	0.7085-0.709
French franc	7.0022-7.0025	7.0022-7.0025
German mark	5.564-5.568	5.564-5.568
Hong Kong dollar	12.4602-12.5010	12.4602-12.5010
Indian rupee	41.87-41.87	41.87-41.87
Japanese yen	4.4015-4.408	4.4015-4.408
Malaysian ringgit	4.735-4.735	4.735-4.735
Mexican peso	2.8386-2.8483	2.8386-2.8483
New Zealand dollar	0.5478-0.548	0.5478-0.548
Spanish peseta	2.8404-2.844	2.8404-2.844
Swiss franc	5.2815-5.2816	5.2815-5.2816
Taiwan dollar	4.6786-4.688	4.6786-4.688
U.S. dollar	0.5475-0.5476	0.5475-0.5476
Thailand Baht	0.017-0.017	0.017-0.017

STRENGTHENING BILL: Approx. 25.00% above 25.00%; bill: 25.00%; received: 14.0%; last: 25.00%; 5% received: 77%; Avg rate: 21.0871%; last: 21.0469%; New York: 25.00%.

MONEY RATES (%)

Bank Rates: Clearing Banks 11% Finance New 11%				
Discount Market Loans: Overnight Bill 11%	Low	10	Week Rate: 11%	
Treasury bills (90-day) 2 1/2 month 3 1/2 month 4 1/2 month 5 1/2 month 6 1/2 month 7 1/2 month 8 1/2 month 9 1/2 month 10 1/2 month 11 1/2 month 12 1/2 month				

1 month	2 1/2 month	3 1/2 month	4 1/2 month	5 1/2 month	6 1/2 month	7 1/2 month	8 1/2 month	9 1/2 month	10 1/2 month	11 1/2 month	12 1/2 month
11%-11 1/2%	10%-10 1/2%	10%-10 1/2%	10%-10 1/2%	10%-10 1/2%	10%-10 1/2%	10%-10 1/2%	10%-10 1/2%	10%-10 1/2%	10%-10 1/2%	10%-10 1/2%	10%-10 1/2%
11%-11 1/2%	11%-11 1/2%	11%-11 1/2%	11%-11 1/2%	11%-11 1/2%	11%-11 1/2%	11%-11 1/2%	11%-11 1/2%	11%-11 1/2%	11%-11 1/2%	11%-11 1/2%	11%-11 1/2%
11%-11 1/2%	11%-11 1/2%	11%-11 1/2%	11%-11 1/2%	11%-11 1/2%	11%-11 1/2%	11%-11 1/2%	11%-11 1/2%	11%-11 1/2%	11%-11 1/2%	11%-11 1/2%	11%-11 1/2%

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WEEKEND MONEY

THE TIMES SATURDAY JULY 6 1991

Edited by Lindsay Cook

Rough justice behind closed doors

Household name insurance companies keep breaking the rules set in place to protect investors, but their policyholders and those thinking about investing do not know who they are. They can continue to spend millions of pounds telling us what wonderful institutions they are in order to attract new customers without those customers knowing any different.

We can only hope this will change now the Life Assurance and Unit Trust Regulatory Organisation (Lautro) has the power to fine its recalcitrant members.

Until June, this club of life assurance and unit trust companies had virtually no sanctions against those members that offend. Lautro's disciplinary proceedings are private so other members of the self-regulatory organisation do not know the extent of the wrongdoing.

Companies called to order by such proceedings rarely admit they were wrong. They hire leading counsel to battle over

every tiny point. Not that they need fear the ignominy of public rebuke or a punitive fine.

In the three years since the Financial Services Act came into operation, Lautro has given publicity to the findings of only three disciplinary hearings.

Agents recruited from those people who knew they would not pass muster to operate as independent financial advisers are a problem for large "respectable" companies. They continually fail to control these salesmen. Time and again, Weekend Money readers name the same companies when agents are accused of misleading or defrauding investors.

Sometimes staff members are at fault, and not only the most junior recruits. Rule-breaking practices are approved of all the way to the boardroom, private Lautro hearings are told. It is



COMMENT

LINDSAY COOK
WEEKEND MONEY EDITOR

time the investing members of the public also hear of such actions.

Fraud, flouting rules to protect investors and using hard-sell techniques are most serious offences and should be dealt with first. There is much more, though, to sort out before the public gets the service it is led to expect from these revered names.

The inability of many leading insurers to cope with the basic paperwork after a sale or an enquiry is appalling.

It is not uncommon for policyholders to wait for months

before the pension plan they have signed up for is set up. Existing policyholders' funds are then used to compensate the new investor because direct debits were not taken earlier and invested.

Such is the respect that these long-established insurers have built up that no-one seems able to tackle them. They all tell us of the noble service they provide by keeping widows from penury.

Maybe such public benefaction should also come within the scope of the proposed Citizen's Charter. Then the rights and

investments of all policyholders might be protected or at least subject to public scrutiny.

Waiting lesson

News yesterday of the freezing of funds in the UK branches of the Bank of Credit and Commerce International will have been a chilling reminder for Stock Group investors of their plight. They have been waiting more than a year to get at their savings. In June they received a letter saying money frozen since the collapse of British & Commonwealth last June would soon be paid out.

The unsigned circular said the British & Commonwealth Merchant Bank was being bought by Charterhouse. Exchange of contracts should have taken place at the end of June and depositors

paid soon after. Those enquiring this week were told that contracts had in fact not been exchanged.

These investors have waited long enough. They waited months to get money from the bank deposit protection scheme because Stock could not supply information about how much was held for each client. The investors, many sold on from other stockbrokers to Stock, are fed up with the delays caused by prospective buyers for the bank.

It is a good lesson for other investors who should get new protection in the next few weeks in the form of client money rules. When these come into operation, investors will be able to insist that any proceeds from the sale of shares or unit trusts are put into a specific bank until the broker is ready to invest again.

However, brokers will only have to tell them which accounts they plan to use and will be free to use a sister company. It will be up to the investor to say they would prefer to use their own High Street bank.

Norwich Union to base charges on postcodes

Subsidence risk forces insurers to raise premiums

By SARA MCCONNELL

ON AUGUST 1, Norwich Union will start charging people more for building insurance if they live in subsidence or storm prone areas. A majority of customers face higher premiums. Sun Alliance, the largest buildings insurer, is expected to follow.

Norwich Union and at least one other big insurer, General Accident, are redrawing maps of Britain defining the areas most at risk from subsidence. Both companies say this exercise is part of a move to charge higher premiums for households in these areas.

For the first time, Norwich Union will base building insurance premiums on postcodes. Each code will be given a rating according to whether there is a high, medium or low risk of subsidence and storm damage in the area.

The most hard hit will be households in the home counties, greater London, Cornwall, Essex, Kent and East and West Sussex. They will have to pay £2.40 per £1,000 of cover, up from a previous flat rate of £2 per £1,000. A household with £200,000 would have to pay an extra £80 a year.

Those in other areas, including Hampshire, Oxford, Devon and Somerset will have to pay slightly more, £2.20 per £1,000. The best off will be people in most of Scotland, the south of Northern Ireland and Mid-Wales whose homes are built on granite. Their premiums will be reduced to £1.80 per £1,000 of cover.

Properties built on clay soil in a broad swathe of the South under a line drawn from Plymouth to the Wash are identified on Norwich Union's new map as high-risk areas for subsidence.

The company has also drawn circles round Manchester, Liverpool and Cheshire in the Northwest, Leeds and Sheffield in the North and an area from Newcastle to Glasgow.

Homes with clay founda-

tions are particularly prone to subsidence because the clay shrinks in dry weather.

Bill Jack, deputy general manager at General Accident, said: "We are redrawing our maps. Subsidence claims will have a serious impact on rates and I would think no insurance company will be in a position to charge the same rate for everyone."

The extra payment could be a couple of pence per £100 of sum insured, he said. A policyholder living in a £200,000 house in a high risk area could end up paying an extra £40 a year if the company added 2p per £100 of sum insured.

Claims for subsidence have soared after two hot summers and two dry winters in 1989 and 1990. The average claim is between £10,000 and £14,000, but companies are reporting payouts of up to £50,000 for complete underpinning of a four-bedroom detached house.

Annual figures released by the Association of British Insurers revealed a five-fold increase in subsidence claims in 1990, but insurers say this is still increasing.

Small signs of activity in the housing market over the last couple of months are also likely to mean more subsidence claims, insurers say. Home owners often do not realise that they have a subsidence problem until they want to sell and a prospective buyer arranges for a survey.

Gerald Eaton, personal insurance manager at Legal & General, said: "The expectation is that as the housing market lives up, the level of subsidence claims will continue at its current high level."

Norwich Union estimates it will receive £22 million by the end of 1991. Last year it paid out £19 million on 1,980 claims, almost double the £10.5 million paid out in 1989.

General Accident made a £40 million provision for sub-

sidence claims last year, after paying out £15 million in 1989. Legal & General saw claims rise by 150 per cent over the last year.

Commercial Union, which has about a million policyholders, paid out £47 million for 5,000 subsidence claims in 1990, nearly triple the £19 million it paid out in 1989. It estimates that claims in the first quarter of this year will total £9 million.

High levels of claims have made insurers cautious about paying out for total underpinning if there are signs that less drastic action would cure a subsidence problem.

Legal & General is updating its guide to subsidence claims sent out to policyholders. "We have put in some stronger messages about dealing with repairs and stressing options other than underpinning. Some houses recover naturally with the removal of a tree or decorative repair," said Mr Eaton.

"If it continues to rain, it will be a great help as the subsoil will recover."

Some companies already refuse to cover properties with a history of subsidence although none will admit to blacklisting whole towns or areas affected by subsidence.

Newer insurers such as Direct Line, the direct motor and household insurance arm of the Royal Bank of Scotland, which makes a virtue of its competitive premiums, said it would not take on properties that had had previous problems.

Helen Sullivan, marketing executive at Churchill, said: "If a property had a previous subsidence claim we would not insure it at all. A lot of companies are going to reflect higher subsidence claims in higher premiums for all policyholders."

Chris McKee, underwriting manager at Direct Line, said: "We will accept business unless there is a problem with a particular area. We would not refuse to cover everyone living in Guildford, for example, but would look at a single street or property."

Both companies sell cover direct over the telephone rather than through a broker and ask at the outset whether a property is free from subsidence.

Zurich Insurance keeps a subsidence register of individual problem properties and streets and describes its underwriting policy as "selective". Properties with subsidence claims are put on the register and the owners would be unlikely to get cover again. Colossal losses mean the company is trying to do everything it can to reduce its exposure to subsidence.

Commercial Union said it would also refuse to insure individual houses with a history of subsidence.

Other major insurers say people with subsidence had enough problems without being refused cover, although premiums would have to be weighted accordingly.

Mr Jack, of General Accident, said: "If the house has already had subsidence and has been underpinned, it shouldn't be liable to further problems."



'Cracks like river deltas': Rosanne Hersee, from Norwich, whose house is being underpinned after subsidence

Rosanne gets that shrinking feeling

TWO years ago, Rosanne Hersee noticed cracks in an archway linking her terraced house in Norwich to the one next door. She also noticed a little crack in the wall of her own property. She called in a builder, who refused to carry out repairs to her wall because any hammering or drilling could bring the archway down (Sara McConnell writes).

Ms Hersee's neighbour, who was responsible for the archway, called in a surveyor. He immediately diagnosed subsidence. This week, Ms Hersee moved out of her house to let builders prepare the property for underpinning.

"I've had to take out all the fittings, even the light fittings, so that they don't get damaged, it's all a bit of an upheaval," she said.

She will have to spend between three and six months in a rented house, paid for by Norwich Union, her insurance company, while the house is underpinned. The dry weather over the past two years has made the subsoil deteriorate.

Ms Hersee believed that Norwich was built on a series of chalk tunnels and some parts, particularly those close to the city centre, were badly affected by shrinkage, leading to subsidence.

Her house and the one next door are among several that have suffered in her street. "The houses are on a hillside. My house is worse at the top, and there are big cracks in the ceiling like river deltas."

When the house was bought in 1983 for £20,000 there was no sign of subsidence and it was given a clean bill by a surveyor. Insurance companies say subsidence problems have only come to light in the last two years, leading to a huge increase in claims.

Norwich Union was quick to send round an independent loss adjuster and appoint a structural engineer to decide what work needed to be done. The engineer identified soil shrinkage as the culprit.

Telltale signs of trouble

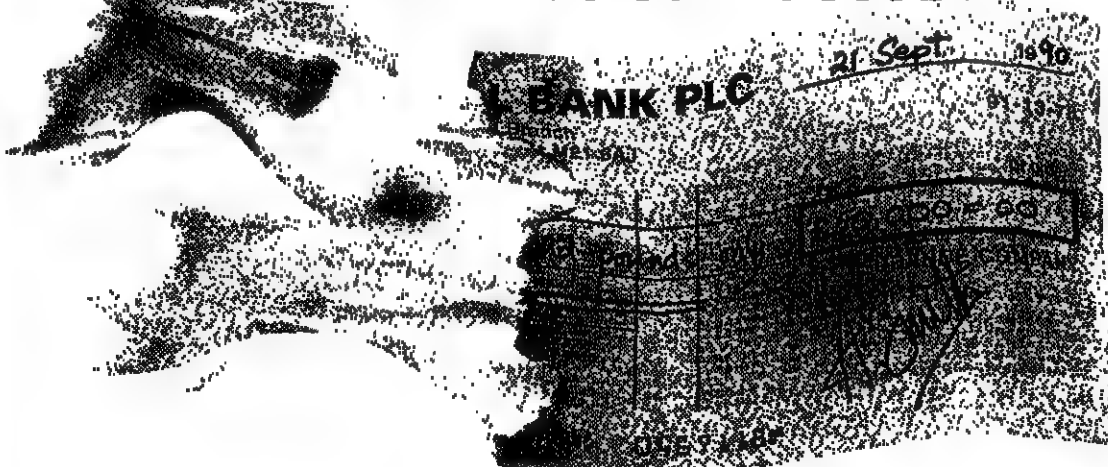
CRACKS at the corners of windows and in door lintels, doors sticking when opened and concrete floors separating from walls can all be signs of subsidence. Other indications can be cracks in walls big enough to insert a pencil and driveways starting to collapse (Sara McConnell writes).

Legal & General's newly updated booklet, *The Legal & General's approach to subsidence claims*, describes subsidence as one type of "ground movement" and says: "A typical cause is the drying of the ground during hot summers causing the soil to shrink and house foundations to drop."

Houses can also start to crack up if they are affected by "heave", the opposite of subsidence. L&G's booklet says: "Heave is upward movement of the ground beneath a building. For example, following the removal of trees in the vicinity of the site, the earth may recover moisture, resulting in the ground expanding and physically lifting the building standing on it."

Trees planted near a house could cause subsidence. In hot weather the roots seek further down for moisture and can spread into the foundation of the house, drying out the soil. Blocked or damaged drains can also cause cracks.

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* Source: Planned Savings. May 1990. Benefits payable on 1/250 for a male, aged 29 years, 11 months, at outset, paying £50 per month gross. Past performance is no guarantee of future performance.

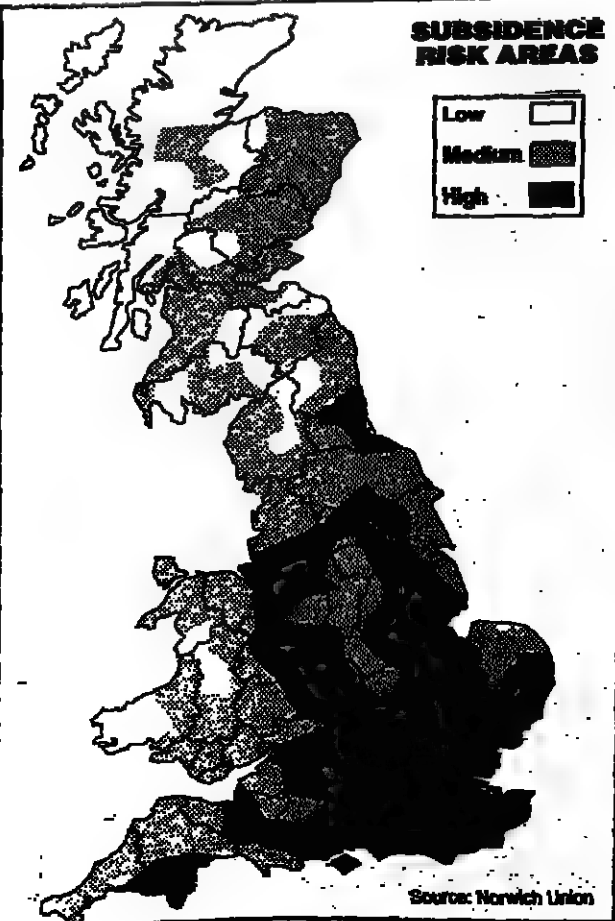
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Fidelity Investments

Dormant, but not forgotten

Lindsay Cook explains how some of the millions of pounds in old bank accounts can be reclaimed

THERE are hidden legacies in grandparents' attics. The merger of building societies and closure of bank branches over the years mean that millions of pounds lie concealed in old passbooks.

All the financial institutions have different ways of administering what they term dormant accounts. These date back to the last century and are collectively worth many millions of pounds.

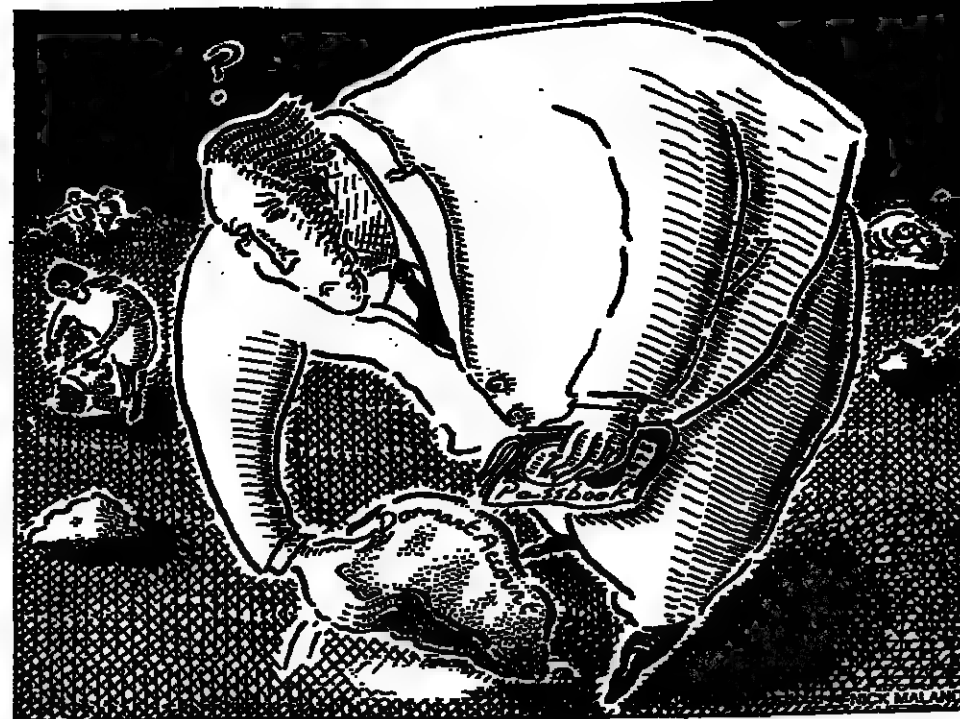
Most contain only small sums and the administrative cost of working out the interest and paying it to the owner can be more than the amount involved.

Old bank passbooks, however, can be misleading. A couple who returned to Australia after two years in London in the Seventies found a passbook last year for a Barclays account. It appeared to contain £323 6s 6d at the time of the last transaction - April 14, 1970.

The branch where the account was held had long since closed and the business transferred to another in the same road. However, no record of the new account could be found at the other branch.

Barclays said this was likely to be because passbooks were abandoned and deposit accounts transferred to statements with new numbers about the time of the last entry in the passbook.

Customers were asked to



take their passbooks to their branch at the time to have them scored through. To be absolutely certain that all the money was later withdrawn, the bank needs the new account number issued 20 years ago. Barclays said if money was still held for the customer, it should show up in records. There was no account.

Barclays regards an account as dormant after three years if there have been no transactions and contact has been lost with the customer.

After two years the bank writes to the last known address, and if it receives no reply, the account is classified as dormant and transferred to the chief accountant's office where it is managed. The branch also keeps a record.

Lloyds Bank receives about eight enquiries a week from people trying to trace old accounts. Its records date

from 1890. To claim money held, the customer needs to know the name in which the account was held and the branch. The bank has £3 million in dormant accounts.

Current accounts are transferred to the Lloyds Bank head office in Bristol and savings accounts stay at the branch. The bank classifies an account as dormant after three years with no transactions.

National Westminster Bank classifies deposit and savings accounts as dormant after ten years and current and reserve accounts after five. The money is then transferred into one big account.

Technically, the money belongs to the bank after this time, explained a spokesman, but it does not confiscate the funds. The money in accounts is regarded as a debt that the bank owes to customers. If they do not claim it within a

certain period the debt could be written off. Any money in dormant accounts, however, is restored to the owners as soon as they ask and show proof of ownership.

Midland Bank said old passbooks often raise false hopes. People who find them in the back of drawers or among the effects of deceased relatives often believe they will collect a large sum. In most cases they do not, because the money was transferred into another account and later withdrawn.

Abbey National does not classify any account as dormant. Even those of the Abbey Road Building Society, before August 1, 1944, are on microfiche or the bank's computer and could be paid out, said a spokesman. "We had one the other day from the early Fifties and the branch was able to deal with it. In some

cases it may take a couple of days," he added.

The former building society is still trying to find 390,000 members who have not claimed the free shares issued when it became a public company. The final claim date is July 12 next year, three years after the flotation.

Building society mergers cause confusion for some members. One reader who had £120 in a Gateway account could not find the society when she came to withdraw her money. It merged with the Woolwich in 1988. All customers were informed but she had moved and did not receive the letter.

The Woolwich said customers with dormant accounts can go into any branch and the details of their savings can be called up on the computer. They have to produce evidence of identification before the money is released.

At the Nationwide, accounts can be dealt with by any branch for five years after the last transaction. Before that accounts have to be referred to head office. To help staff and customers, each branch has a list of the 80 societies that merged over the years to form the Nationwide.

The Halifax puts an indicator on accounts when it loses touch with investors. The next time the account is used, an up-to-date address is obtained. Any branch can deal with queries about an old passbook, although pre-decimal ones take a little longer. Many dormant accounts were secretly opened by grandparents for grandchildren.

Often people trying to claim money from banks or building societies do not have a passbook or an account number, just a vague recollection that they had an account and did not close it. Banks and societies can still locate money from such sparse information.

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NatWest fixes it for the 21st century homeowner

A MORTGAGE which has its rate fixed into the 21st century was launched by National Westminster Bank this week (writes Lindsay Cook).

The mortgage, at 11.8 per cent (annual percentage rate of 12.6 per cent), compares with the bank's standard rate of 12.45 per cent (APR 13.2 per cent). This is the first time a leading lender has offered a fixed-rate mortgage for longer than five years. The rate is fixed until June 30, 2001.

Lenders offering fixed-rate mortgages report a preference among borrowers for capped loans. With these, the interest rate cannot rise above the rate quoted but can fall below it.

NatWest also has funds fixed at 11.8 per cent for five years. Both loans are only available on endowment and pension mortgages with insurance through NatWest Insurance Services, but existing



Gillis: extending choice policies may be acceptable. There is a £300 arrangement fee for both and an early repayment penalty of four months' interest on the 10-year fixed-rate and two months' on the five-year one. Gillis, managing director of NatWest Home Loans,

said: "Given recent uncertainty over interest rates, and the desire of many customers to fix their repayments to help budgeting, we felt it worthwhile to extend our choice of fixed-rate terms." The bank also offers two-year fixed-rate loans at 11.75 per cent.

The Woolwich Building Society introduces a two-year fixed-rate mortgage on Monday at 10.95 per cent (APR 12.9 per cent). An administration charge of £150 is made and if the loan is redeemed in the first year three months' interest will be charged. In the next year two months' interest will be charged.

Loans can be up to 90 per cent of the value of the property and must be endowment or pension mortgages.

John Charcol, the London mortgage broker, has a mortgage fixed at 10.75 per cent (APR 12.8 per cent) until September 30, 1994. This is available for endowment, pension and personal equity plan mortgages and interest-only loans above £100,000. There is a £250 arrangement fee and a three-month penalty for early repayment.

The broker is also offering a capped-rate loan at the rate of 10.65 per cent (APR 13.1 per cent) to September 1992. Should variable interest rates fall, the capped rate will follow. This has an arrangement fee of £125 and has no early repayment penalty. It is also available for endowment, pension, Pep or interest-only on loans over £100,000.

The Scarborough Building Society also has a capped mortgage. Its offering has a maximum payment rate of 10.95 per cent (APR 11.68 per cent) until September next year.

M&G, the investment group, is offering mortgages capped at 10.95 per cent (APR 11.62 per cent) until June 30, 1992. There is a £350 arrangement fee. A £100 administration fee will be charged for early redemption.

Confederation Life is offering a five-year fixed-rate mortgage at 11.75 per cent (APR 12.8 per cent). Previously it offered fixed-rate loans at 11.95 per cent over five years.

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SAVE & PROSPER

THE INVESTMENT FOR THE FUTURE

Kleinwort and CNW to move into trusts

By Sara McConnell

TWO investment trusts aiming to provide a mixture of income and capital growth are being launched over the next few weeks.

The Kleinwort Benson Investment Trust Management high income trust is split with 60 per cent in blue chips for income and 40 per cent in zero dividend preference (ZDP) shares for growth.

Both parts have a seven-year life, over which Kleinwort promises fixed capital growth of 11.5 per cent a year from the ZDPs. The income from shares should provide an initial gross yield of 10 per cent.

All the shares in the trust up to an annual limit of £6,000 can be transferred into a personal equity plan (PeP). During the initial offer period of the trust from July 5 to July 28, a 4 per cent initial charge will be waived.

County NatWest Investment Management's smaller companies investment trust has a fixed life of 10 years and will hold ordinary smaller companies shares with warrants attached on a 1 for five basis at 100 pence per share, giving investors the right to subscribe to shares between 1993 and 1998 at the original price. The shares are expected to have an initial gross dividend of 4.5 per cent. There are no guaranteed returns.

Investors can transfer holdings into a PeP. County wants to attract £25 million before the July 17 closing date and has already received around £14 million from institutional investors. A further £7 million is expected from private investors through the independent financial adviser Hargreaves Lansdown and NatWest Financial Services, the independent arm of NatWest bank, could bring in £2.5 million. County is hoping to attract £1.5 million through press advertising.

Roaring away with the Abbey

ABBEY National is giving away red sports cars to everyone who takes out a car loan with the bank.

The eight-inch radio-controlled models of the Porsche 911 are part of the summer car loan promotion, launched in time for the new J registration prefix next month (Lindsay Cook writes).

Unfortunately, the bank's loans will not extend to buying a full-size new model of a car. They are limited to a maximum of £10,000.

The interest rate works out at an annual percentage rate of 26.4 per cent for loans above this. Borrowers must be at least 21 years old.

To help buyers to choose their vehicle, Abbey National has produced a 16-page car buyer's guide. Payments can be made over 12, 24, 36, or 48 months.



Bank statement chas: Tim Fisher outside the Croydon branch of the Nationwide

Double trouble at the Nationwide

By Lindsay Cook, MONEY EDITOR

More than 17,000 Nationwide Building Society borrowers were charged twice for their mortgages in June and 2,400 were still waiting for a refund and a letter of explanation four weeks later.

One borrower was alerted when his bank statement showed him to be overdrawn. Another found that money was transferred from her deposit account to her current account to cover the extra mortgage payment.

Meanwhile, another Nationwide customer is finding difficulty paying his mortgage because of a direct debit muddle that put him six months in arrears without being informed.

The first mistake occurred on June 4, when 17,400 borrowers who pay by direct debit and are on the society's annual review scheme had two debits taken from their account on the same day. It resulted from the June mortgage rates cut.

The society debited the old and wrong amount from bank accounts and then took the new lower amount. Unfortunately, the first debit was not restored to accounts immediately, causing problems for most of the borrowers.

Normally, the annual review payments are changed in January, but the society decided to cut payments in June as mortgage rates had fallen from 14.5 per cent to 12.95 per cent since the last change.

Sue Walker, of Bletchingley, Surrey, only learnt of the double payment when Tim Fisher, a colleague, who also has a Nationwide mortgage, told her a double payment had made him overdrawn.

Mrs Walker contacted her bank on June 12 to find that her arrangement to transfer money from her savings account when her current account was in danger of becoming

overdrawn, had been triggered. The cost of the transfer was £20, plus the subsequent loss of interest. Last Monday, she finally received a faxed message asking her to telephone the Nationwide as it could not find her records.

"My bank has still not been reimbursed and I have told it to stop the July payment. I find it extraordinary that a month later they have not sent out a letter of apology."

"I was told by one member of staff that people who telephoned to complain were getting priority. My bank has already offered to take over the mortgage."

Mr Fisher said he was lucky he had requested a bank statement the Saturday before his mortgage payment was due. It had arrived after June 4 and showed two debits.

The Nationwide said 15,000 of the customers affected had received a letter within a week to ten days explaining the mistake, and cheques had been sent to their banks to repay the extra payment. They were told the society would reimburse them for any bank charges or loss of interest. The society has decided to take the July payment later in the month to compensate the borrowers.

But some customers did not receive a letter and cheques were not credited to their accounts during June, said the spokeswoman. They were 2,400 customers whose loans had not originated with Nationwide and their mortgages were dealt with differently. Letters were due to go out to them shortly and cheques were being sent to their banks.

In Bristol, Oliver Lovibond, a retired solicitor, changed from a standing order to a direct debit at the request of the Nationwide last year. In

February, he discovered from his bank statement that no mortgage payment had been debited for four months. When he visited the local branch of the society he was told that two figures had been transposed in his current account number. The correct number was supplied and he was assured that payments would resume.

"I was told that the reason I had not previously been notified of the arrears was that they didn't give such notification until arrears reached £1,000," said Mr Lovibond.

In mid-April, he found no payments had been taken in March or April and he contacted the society to find his arrears stood at £800, which he paid. Yesterday, he expected to become three months in arrears again through no fault of his own.

A spokesman for the Nationwide said "a combination of errors" caused Mr Lovibond's payments not to be collected. These had been rectified and from August his account would be debited.

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IN THE INVESTMENT HOME

Reversionary seeking a BES first

A BUSINESS expansion scheme (BES) that will buy the homes of elderly people and lease them back to them is aiming to raise £10 million (Lindsay Cook writes).

Reversionary Gains plc, launched yesterday by Neil Clerk, the Scottish solicitor, is the first assured-tenancy scheme to offer home reversion. It will buy family properties from elderly home owners at a "substantial discount to the freehold market

value" and then offer them a tenancy for life. The price paid will vary according to the age and sex of the home owner.

Because the prices paid will be lower than the market value of the property, there will be "potential for substantial capital gain," Reversionary Gains says.

Unlike other BES schemes, Reversionary Gains will not be able to organise its rentals so that all the properties are vacant after five years. This

means that liquidation certificates will have to be issued for occupied properties, and a market has been arranged in these through the monthly auctions of Foster & Cranfield.

Should a number of investors try to sell at the same time there could be a shortage of buyers.

Old people moving out during the five years will be paid a "vacancy allowance". Investors can put up to

£40,000 in BES schemes and receive tax relief. In addition, they pay no capital gains tax if invested for five years.

Shares will be offered at 95p until July 29, and £1 thereafter. Minimum investment is 1,000 shares.

John Spiers of *BES Investment*, the specialist magazine, said if all the shareholders wanted to sell the liquidation certificates at the same time the market would be swamped.

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LETTERS

Italians spring surprise charge for Eurocheques

of the recession the Italian banks and hotels were trying to get as much money as possible out of tourists. He seemed to think that this was possibly reasonable.

By night, buses were streaming down my checks at the thought of the poor impoverished Banca di Verona and the proprietors of the Delle Pedrol Hotel. But I was still having to pay twice to use Eurocheques. Will British banks take any action to eliminate this form of profiteering?

Yours faithfully,
R. R. WASTNEDGE,
34 Crust Park,
Wetherall,
Carlisle, Cumbria.

From C. W. Howard

Sir, Should commission be charged by banks on cashing travellers cheques made out in the local currency and for which ones have already been paid in the UK?

I have recently returned from a holiday in Spain. I took with me Thomas Cook travellers cheques in pesetas. In

Madrid I cashed 20,000 pesetas worth at a branch of Barclays bank, where I was charged 850 pesetas for the honour. In Jalon, near Alicante I cashed 35,000 pesetas at a local Spanish bank; they charged no commission. Why the difference?

Yours faithfully,
C.V. HOWARD,
Durham Cottage,
Lower Farm Lane,
Mollington, Oxfordshire.

From Mr I. Mattin
Sir, The hotel in Austria that I holiday in does not accept credit cards but welcomes Eurocheques.

In our shop in the UK we recently took a £250 sterling Eurocheque from a German visitor. The charges deducted by our bank (Barclays) came to £14.50. The charge on a credit card would be £5.00. There seems to be something amiss.

Yours faithfully,
I. MATTIN,
The Brindles,
Briscoe Road,
Hoddeston, Hertfordshire.

Bonds fail shares test

From Mr John Westcombe
Sir, I wonder if other readers
share my concern about the
relative performances of
bonds and shares.

The main question is: why
is it that insurance bond
managers do so much less well
than ordinary investors in
privatisation shares. Surely, in
respect of managed and equity
sectors, they ought to do as
well.

In fact, aren't they paid to
do better?

Over virtually any period you select, a modest collection of privatisation shares does significantly better than a similar investment in two middle of the road (eg NPI and GRE) managed and equity bonds. There was some parity until early September 89, when the bonds peaked, never to recover that position. The shares, subject of course to some fluctuations, have generally shown a rise, and have made 18 per cent since that date. All this, completely removing both rights issues and dividends from the calculations!


Are we wrong to assume that managers cast an expert eye over our money, and if we buy equities, a bond specialising in them should do better than we can, sitting on a few now rather ancient governmental distributions?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WESTCOMBE
New Road,
Bromcombe,
Hartfordshire.

● Letters are welcomed, but *The Times* regrets it cannot give individual replies or advice. No legal responsibility can be accepted for advice or statements in these columns and independent professional advice should be sought.

Executors given excellent service

From Mr Archibald Campbell
Sir, Like Mr Wheeler (Weekend Money letters, June 29) I was also a joint executor of my mother's estate.
My mother, the other executor and myself had nearly 200 years of experience of banking at Barclays. We received a letter of condolence, and the help they gave us extended not only to the handwriting of cheques before probate was granted for the funeral expenses, but also to the waiving of charges when



☐ National Savings' children's bonus bonds will be on sale in post offices across the country from Monday offering a guaranteed tax-exempt 11.84 per cent over five years including a bonus on the fifth anniversary of 47.36 per cent of the purchase price.

The maximum holding per child in the bonds is £1,000, bought in units of £25. Anyone over 16 can buy them for anyone under 16. The bonds will continue to grow until the

the encashers' account had inadvertently become overdrawn, and when a cheque that had strayed had to be stopped and other arrangements made for funds to be transferred.

In fact, I cannot think of a single occasion when charges were raised against the encashers' accounts nor when requests made to the bank were not dealt with rapidly and efficiently.

Yours faithfully,
ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL,
Bransbury,
Long Park,
Chesham Bois,
Buckinghamshire.

Pension loss

From Mr Kenneth Winfield Sir, I shall be 65 on Tuesday, July 9, and having paid sufficient contributions to the state scheme, including Serps and graduated earnings, I will qualify for a pension of £90.60 per week.

Unfortunately for me, this will not be paid until July 15, the first Monday after one's birthday, so I lose £77.65. I've heard of swings and roundabouts but this is more like dogeatsdog.

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH W. WINFIELD,
Oak Bluffs,
Chinnerfield, Hertfordshire

Bully boy tactics over direct debits

From Mr Dennis W. Bull.
Sir, I object in principle to
direct debit because I do not
want my people having
access to my bank account,
and Mr Bullock in his letter
(Weekend Money, June 22)
confirmed my suspicions of
the shortcomings of this
obnoxious system.

Unfortunately, many com-
panies and organisations now
refuse standing orders and
insist on direct debit. These
bully boy tactics have recently
been adopted by British
Telecom, who have cancelled
my budget account because I
refused to change my method
of monthly payments from
standing order to direct debit.

Yours so far,
DENNIS W. BULL,
55 St Cyril Rise,
Llangbri,
Gwent.

and a potential threat to homelessness, a serious social problem.

Home Equity Share has proved successful in stimulating home sales and could equally help in the present situation. The lenders could be allowed to increase their equity ratios so that they could buy a percentage of the borrower's home. Their capital would have to be used by the borrower to pay off arrears and perhaps to reduce the monthly repayments for a set term. The lender would share in equity growth when their home was eventually sold and the lender's security would obviously be the home.

An additional benefit would be that the housing market would stabilize, because less enforced sales would be coming on to the market which is at the moment, seriously depressing it.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID GOSLETT,
managing director,
Showhouses,
Unit 28,
Barwell Business Park,
Leatherhead,
Surrey.

Homes threat

From Mr. David Gaslett
Sir, The latest statistics on mortgages are alarming.

LARGER LOANS

Lender	Interest Rate %	Loan Size	Max. %	Notes
BUILDING SOCIETIES				
Chelsea (0454 321301)	10.85	50K+	80	After 1.5% discount for first year
Northwick & Peabody (0753 321597)	10.45	to 100K	95	After 2% discount to £112,000
Paragon (0274 734822)	11.30	50K+	85	After 1.1% reduction for first year
BANKS				
Barclays (0603 844842)	11.20	£20-500K	50	After 1.25% discount for first year
OTHER (INSURANCE COMPANY)				
Abbey Life (0202 292373)	11.70	£15-150K	95	Endowment only. Rates capped to June 1992

TEAM UP WITH A GROWING FORCE

**...AND HAVE THE POTENTIAL FOR
BETTER RETURNS FOR YOUR SAVINGS**

The tide of environmental concern is now in full flow and has the active backing of people from all walks of life — from the Government to consumers, city institutions to small investors, giant-sized industries to small businesses.

People now accept that we all must act now to preserve our most valuable asset — the earth and its resources.

1% Anniversary bonus!
You can do 'your bit' for the environment and have the potential for better returns by investing in the TSB Environmental Investor Fund. It's the largest environmental unit trust in the UK and invests in companies that demonstrate a positive commitment to the preservation of the environment.

As a special incentive, we are offering a second anniversary 1% bonus for investments made before 9th August 1991.

'Green' all set to grow!

Industry is also recognising that what's good for the earth can make good business sense too.

So leading companies, initially seeking to be environmentally responsible for the benefit of the planet and their image are now rapidly discovering that energy conservation and waste management can increase profitability and create fast growing new markets in environmentally sound products, pollution-control technology and re-cycling.

The minimum investment is £500 and it is even possible to invest through a PEP and obtain all gains entirely free of UK tax.

The price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up and is not guaranteed.

ACT NOW.

For full details of the Fund, phone **LINKLINE 0345 078300** between 9.00am - 4.30pm on any business day. Calls are charged at local rates. Or complete and return the Freeport coupon.

OUR ENVIRONMENTAL WATCHDOG
The Funds' investments are selected and managed by TSB Investment Management Limited, who already look after £1.7 billion of private investors' savings. However, impartial scrutiny of the Funds' shareholdings is essential to see that they meet environmental criteria. So a totally independent committee, chaired by renowned environmentalist Dr. David Bellamy, vets all investments.

1% BONUS OFFER

To: Caroline Curry, TSB Unit Trusts Limited, FREE
Charlton Place, Andover, Hants SP10 1BR.

Please send me the free full colour leaflet.

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms (Forname(s)) _____
Surname _____
Address _____

Postcode _____

TSB Unit Trusts Limited is a member of LAUTRO, IMRO, and a
participant in the Unit Trust Ombudsman Scheme. TSB Investment
Management Limited is an associate of the TSB Group.

invaluable

In the current tax year, you will not be eligible for TSB Environment Plus funding as at 1st July 1991. The law relating to taxation can change and this can affect your circumstances. You should regard your investment as a long-term one.

Portfolio

PLATINUM

For readers who may have missed a copy of *The Times* this week, we repeat below this week's *Portfolio* price changes (today's are on page 28).

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1	+1	+4	+2	+2	+3							
2	+3	+7	+6	+2	+6							
3	+3	+5	+3	+1	+5							
4	+1	+4	+4	+2	+4							
5	+2	+6	+4	+1	+8							
6	+2	+3	+6	+3	+5							
7	+5	+2	+4	+4	+8							
8	+1	+4	+2	+1	+3							
9	+2	+5	+4	+1	+8							
10	+5	+4	+5	+6	+7							
11	+4	+2	+4	+4	+7							
12	+3	+4	+3	+2	+6							
13	+4	+2	+4	+5	+7							
14	+3	+7	+6	+2	+6							
15	+1	+3	+3	+2	+3							
16	+1	+4	+2	+1	+5							
17	+2	+3	+3	+3	+3							
18	+2	+6	+3	+1	+5							
19	+3	+6	+7	+1	+5							
20	+2	+2	+3	+3	+4							
21	+1	+5	+4	+1	+5							
22	+4	+6	+5	+2	+5							
23	+1	+1	+5	+6	+7							
24	+2	+6	+5	+1	+5							
25	+1	+3	+3	+1	+3							
26	+2	+8	+2	+2	+5							
27	+5	+1	+4	+6	+6							
28	+4	+7	+7	+2	+6							
29	+2	+3	+4	+3	+4							
30	+2	+7	+7	+2	+5							
31	+3	+5	+2	+1	+5							
32	+3	+5	+6	+1	+5							
33	+4	+1	+3	+2	+3							
34	+1	+3	+3	+1	+3							
35	+1	+3	+3	+1	+3							
36	+7	+1	+4	+4	+6							
37	+4	+7	+6	+5	+5							
38	+6	+3	+4	+5	+6							
39	+2	+6	+2	+1	+5							
40	+5	+1	+4	+3	+6							
41	+1	+2	+2	+3	+3							
42	+2	+5	+3	+2	+5							
43	+4	+2	+6	+5	+5							
44	+3	+7	+6	+5	+5							

The Brunner
Investment Trust PLC

**NET ASSET VALUE UP 19.7%
AND INTERIM DIVIDEND UP 10%**

	Six months ended	Year to
	31.5.91	31.5.90
Net earnings per ordinary share	2.61p	2.47p
Dividend per ordinary share	2.20p	2.00p
Net Assets per ordinary share	188.1p	196.3p

The net asset value per ordinary share rose by 19.7% from 157.1p at 30th November 1990 to 188.1p at 31st May 1991, compared with an increase in the Datastream Investment Trust Asset Index of 17.8%.

The Board has declared an interim dividend of 2.20p net per ordinary share, an increase of 10% over the 2.00p paid last year. It is the Board's intention to pay a total dividend for the year of not less than 4.60p. Copies of the Interim Report and information on the KB Investment Trust Savings Scheme are available from the Secretary, 10 Fenchurch Street, London EC3M 3LB.

Kleinwort Benson
Investment Trust Management

WISELY SPREAD INVESTMENTS
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Past performance is not necessarily a guide to the future and share prices can fall as well as rise so that you may not be able to recover the amount you invested.

MOTOR RACING

Senna establishes control as his rivals feel the heat

FROM NORMAN HOWELL IN MAGNY COURS, FRANCE

THE story of the first day of grand prix competition at Magny Cours was one of blistering heat, shattered glass, an errant hare and a short-lived strike, and amidst it all, Ayrton Senna the reigning world champion, reasserting his authority on the sport. After a competitive practice session, Senna had secured a provisional pole position on the grid for tomorrow's French grand prix, half a second of his nearest rival, Nigel Mansell.

The Brazilian was back to his usual best. After a workmanlike first lap on qualifying tyres, he waited in the pits for the other contenders to show their hand. Mansell, Alain Prost, Jean Alesi and Riccardo Patrese all followed him out on to circuit, with Mansell doing particularly well, setting the fastest time so far. Just behind him were the two Ferrari drivers, who seem finally to have a car that can do justice to their undoubted abilities.

Then Senna pounced. Like a big, lazy, predatory cat who knows just how to conserve his energies for the kill, he slipped out of the pit lane and struck. With a time of 1min 16.60, he was back in pole position, and since Prost has already said that pole is crucial on this circuit as it is so hard to overtake, in control.

Indeed, the course that has come under some fairly heavy criticism already. Among the reasons are the fact that it is narrow and because it has chicanes and first gear turns that seem designed only to slow the cars down.

The heat has descended like an oppressive blanket over the hilly and green countryside around Magny Cours. If it stays like this, tomorrow's race will hinge very much on the right cooling conditions, while tyre changes will also play an important part in the overall strategy.

As it was, yesterday's practice was not affected too much

by the high temperatures, except for the fact that the Pirelli-shod cars, the Benetton and Tyrrells in particular, did sizzle and slide on the smooth surface a great deal.

It made for great entertainment, but Pirelli were quick to shift the blame on the missing presence of John Barnard and Harvey Postlethwaite, the senior designers, who recently left their teams and who might have corrected the under and oversteering problems which afflicted both teams at a much earlier stage.

The morning-free practice was twice held up by unusual incidents. First, a hare on the loose brought confusion to the pit lane.

Though that raised a smile, however, the other interruption was more serious. Just below the start/finish gantry, the organisers have suspended a number of electronic boards, all smartly covered in new, shiny glass. Affected by the vibrations and noise caused by the cars roaring under it, the glass shattered.

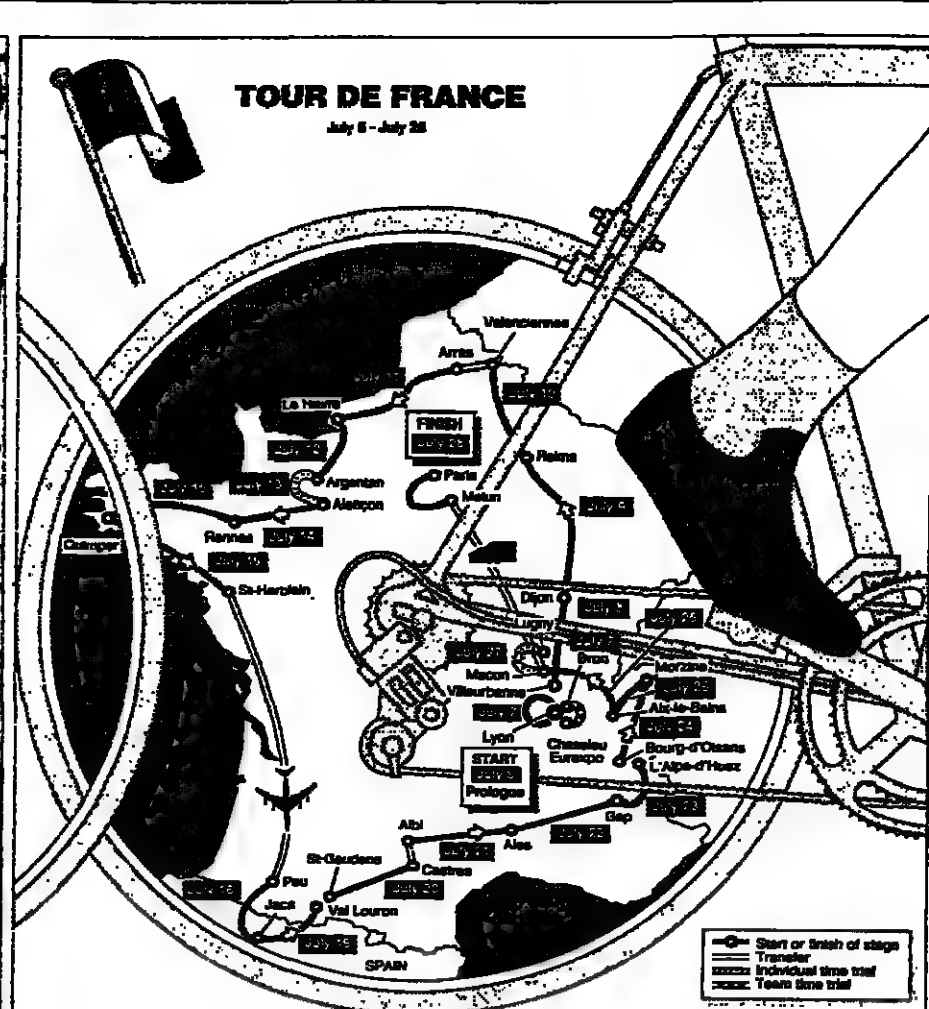
It took a while for the stewards to stop the practice, and the clean-up that followed was a farce, with circuit employees throwing brushes at the panel to try and clear the glass that had been left standing.

All this happened opposite the Jordan pits, and Eddie Jordan, never one to pull back when a little goodwill might lead to a little extra exposure on the track, quickly got his team to organise a stop ladder and some tape to stop the other panels from shattering.

The farcical note was carried into the afternoon session, already delayed from the morning, when the medical staff, unhappy because of a casting failure, crowded the exit to the pit lane, hoping that if food was not forthcoming, they would be slow to move off. They were fed, but it proved to be an expensive meal for the circuit organisers, as they were later fined \$20,000 for delaying the start of the race, it was a lot of money for a few pate sandwiches.



In front of the pack: LeMond is ready to lead the riders on a winding route around France as he strives for his third successive Tour victory



LeMond sets sights on a record

By PETER BRYAN

GREC LeMond today starts what many believe to be his "Mission Impossible": a third successive victory in the Tour de France to bring his total to four. He has not won a race this year.

For the 23-day Tour, LeMond can expect to be in or out of the saddle, depending on whether the terrain is flat or uphill, for 2,462 miles, beginning in Lyon and then riding in an anti-clockwise direction around France, with a brief but vicious mountainous incursion across the Pyrenees to Spain, before the weary survivors put on their brakes for the last time at the finish in the Champs-Élysées in Paris on July 28.

From a financial point of view, LeMond, aged 30, need never turn a pedal in competition again since he is a millionaire. He is also a sportsman who still lives with gunshot in his heart, legs and back as a result of a shooting accident in the United States four years ago.

LeMond's approach to racing is disarming. He knows his physical strengths and weaknesses and will not bow to outside pressures to change his style of preparation, which does not seek success in early-season events but rather to use them as a build-up for Le Tour, on which he stakes everything.

A third successive victory this year will not put him ahead in the record books. Louison Bobet, of France, was the first to achieve the feat in 1953, 1954 and 1955, to be succeeded by his compatriot, Jacques Anquetil, who won four times from 1961-64, a feat later equalled by the Eddy Merckx, of Belgium, whose run was achieved between 1969 and 1972. Anquetil, Merckx and Bernard Hinault, of France, have each won this most demanding of races five times, which leaves LeMond still with a lot to do if he wants to join that special group.

Two years ago, the American succeeded brilliantly with a last-day time-trial

victory into Paris that gave him overall victory by eight seconds from Laurent Fignon, of France. Last year, LeMond played his winning card on the penultimate stage, and again in a time trial, to wrest the lead from Claudio Chiappucci, of Italy.

The time trial today, a mere sprint of 5.3km, is unlikely to be the deciding factor this year, but tomorrow, in a split stage, there is a team race against the clock of 43km and two further individual time trials of 72km and 57km before the final flag, all three of which could influence the outcome.

The Tour de France is not

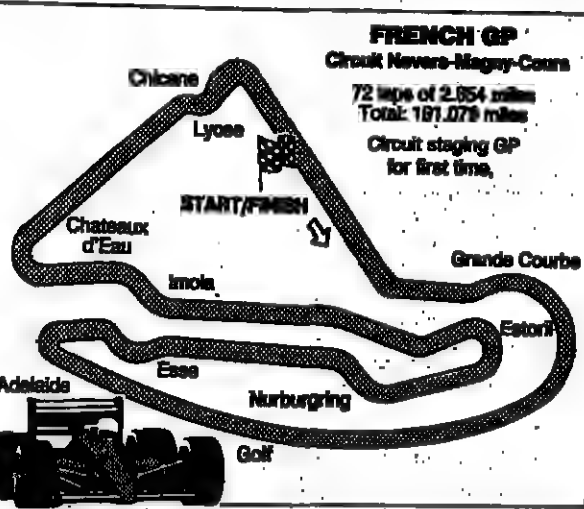
a one-man race, however, and while LeMond starts as favourite, if only on his past record, there will be others among the 198 in tomorrow's line-up capable of wearing the leader's yellow jersey.

Italy, enjoying a renaissance on the road, will be looking to Chiappucci, rated the world's No. 1, to reverse last year's result, but in the Giro d'Italia it was Franco Chioccioli who triumphed. He also finished second in the Italian championship last Sunday to Gianni Bugno, the No. 2 in the world rankings. Fignon, the winner in 1983 and 1984, probably sees this

year's race as a make-or-break test for, if it ends in failure, he may turn his attention to other things, while Bert-Jan Theunisse, of The Netherlands, fourth in 1989 and who returned to competition in June after a year's suspension for doping, has spent his enforced resting piling up 30,000 training miles to good effect.

Robert Millar, of Scotland, one of the world's best riders in the mountains, is a team colleague of LeMond and although his first task is to nurse his captain when necessary, he wants to take the climber's award he first won seven years ago.

Stephen Roche, of the Republic of Ireland, a former Tour winner leading a Belgian-sponsored squad, has not shown the form this season to suggest that he is capable of overall victory again, while his countryman, Sean Kelly, must be regarding this year's Tour if not as his swan-song, certainly as the last realistic opportunity to win his fourth green jersey as the most consistently-placed daily rider.



1. A. Senna (Br), 1:16.60, 1st; 2. N. Mansell (GB), 1:17.00, 2nd; 3. A. Prost (Fr), 1:17.05, 3rd; 4. R. Patrese (It), 1:17.10, 4th; 5. J. Alesi (It), 1:17.15, 5th; 6. R. Barrichello (Br), 1:17.20, 6th; 7. B. Badoer (It), 1:17.25, 7th; 8. S. Frittoli (It), 1:17.30, 8th; 9. S. Agnelli (Fr), 1:17.35, 9th; 10. J. Herbert (Br), 1:17.40, 10th; 11. J. Alesi (It), 1:17.45, 11th; 12. J. Alesi (It), 1:17.50, 12th; 13. J. Alesi (It), 1:17.55, 13th; 14. J. Alesi (It), 1:18.00, 14th; 15. J. Alesi (It), 1:18.05, 15th; 16. J. Alesi (It), 1:18.10, 16th; 17. J. Alesi (It), 1:18.15, 17th; 18. J. Alesi (It), 1:18.20, 18th; 19. J. Alesi (It), 1:18.25, 19th; 20. J. Alesi (It), 1:18.30, 20th; 21. J. Alesi (It), 1:18.35, 21st; 22. J. Alesi (It), 1:18.40, 22nd; 23. J. Alesi (It), 1:18.45, 23rd; 24. J. Alesi (It), 1:18.50, 24th; 25. J. Alesi (It), 1:18.55, 25th; 26. J. Alesi (It), 1:19.00, 26th; 27. J. Alesi (It), 1:19.05, 27th; 28. J. Alesi (It), 1:19.10, 28th; 29. J. Alesi (It), 1:19.15, 29th; 30. J. Alesi (It), 1:19.20, 30th.

BOWLS

England secure trophy

By DAVID REYS JONES

ENGLAND beat Scotland by 20 shots in the NatWest home international series at Ebbw Vale yesterday to take the News of the World Trophy for the ninth year in succession.

Playing with more conviction than they had shown against Wales and Ireland, England survived a lively assault which had kept Scotland in the lead until the halfway stage.

Tony Allcock's rink, with Ian Carruthers, of Cumbria, making an outstanding international debut, beat Willie Wood's rink by 18 shots. Andy Thomson's rink scored 11 shots over the last five ends against Angus Blair to improve a 14-27 deficit to 25-28.

On a green where accurate leading was a tall order, the foundation for England's victory was laid by the seconds, of whom Ian Siddons, of Somerset, was outstanding.

David Bryant, aged 59, appeared to get younger as the series unfolded, and scored 11 shots against Richard Corrie between the sixteenth and 21st ends. John Bell outscored Brian Ratnay 11-3 over the last seven ends. Like last year, Gerry Smyth, David Holt, Grant Burgess and Ted Hanger finished the series unbeaten.

Despite their second place in the final league table, Scotland could claim only six winning rinks in 18 rink matches.

RESULTS: England beat Scotland 109-108, three scores (England skipper Keith D.J. Bryant 24, R. Corrie 18, A. E. Thomson 26, A. O. Bell 26, A. Allcock 27, W. Wood 28, D. S. Ward 15, G. Holt 22, J. N. Bell 18, B. Ratnay 17, E. Hanger 19, A. Marshall 14).

OLYMPIC GAMES

Support for Manchester

THE government has made it clear that it will continue to back Manchester's efforts to stage the Olympic Games (Robert Key, an environment minister with responsibility for the inner cities, told the Commons: "My ministerial colleagues and I will continue to support the bid committee's sterling efforts in bringing the Olympic Games to Britain—and to the northwest—in the year 2000."

The unsuccessful bid for the 1996 Games had reminded many people of the sporting heritage of the city, Mr Key said.

RUGBY UNION

Webb makes international return on familiar ground

FROM DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT, SYDNEY

JONATHAN Webb made his first appearance for England halfway up the Parramatta Road in 1987, and tomorrow, on the same ground, he will return to the senior side after two years' absence when he plays against New South Wales in the opening tour match. Webb, Bath's full back, will also be first-choice goal-kicker.

He replaces Simon Hodgkinson, who has squibbed withdrawn because of the discomfort of a broken nose, incurred in an accidental collision with Chris Oti on Wednesday. Webb, now 27, may be joined by a club colleague since John Hall is standing by at No. 8 for Dean Richards, the Leicester player was up and about yesterday after a 24-hour bout of illness but did not train in the rain.

There is little point fielding players not 100 per cent and lessons can be learned from those who have looked sharp in training: Webb has not played an international since March 1989 and Hall, with the exception of Argentina last November, not since 1987. If both come through well against New South Wales XV containing nine capped players, the element of competition will be the greater.

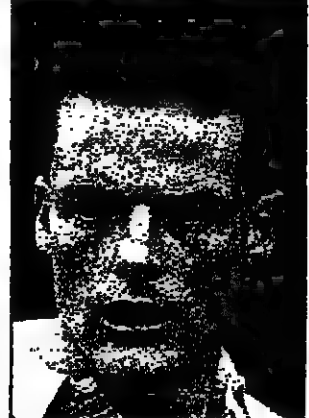
The first of Webb's 16 caps came as a replacement during the World Cup in 1987, against Australia at what was then Waratah Rugby Park—part of New South Wales's effort to put behind them the ground's

chequered financial history. Another reminder of that game emerged yesterday with the appointment of Keith Law, a former New Zealand, to referee the Australia v England international on July 27.

It was Lawrence who ruled a controversial try for David Campese in 1987. The current touring party, though, have enough to worry about: New South Wales are unbeaten after eight matches this season, the closest call being a 15-15 draw against Tucuman in Argentina.

Castlemaine Perkins, the brewers, have come up with a somewhat meretricious trophy, the XXXX Cup, which will be competed for by Australia and visiting unions (with the exception of New Zealand).

The home team's midfield



Webb gets a chance

backs are stamped dependable, rather than inspirational, while Egon, the former Sydney University full back, is playing for a first international cap on the wing, as is Roebuck at full back. Six of tomorrow's England side will need no reminding that Roebuck scored all the points in the injury-time 23-21 victory by the 1989 Lions against the state.

At least England open with a comparatively settled and confident XV; in Brisbane, Wales will not know quite what to expect from the XV that plays Queensland tomorrow in what amounts to a restart of their tour, despite the win over Western Australia last Sunday. Queensland's backs have an air of derring-do and forwards capable of giving them possession.

Ron Waldron, the Welsh coach, is confident that Phillips, his first-choice hooker, will be fit though he must still undergo a fitness test on his bruised back. Thorburn, the captain, survived a minor scare in training yesterday with sore shins.

NEW SOUTH WALES: M. Roebuck; D. Campese; C. Wells; R. Tombs; R. Egon; J. Law; M. Farnham; A. Day; P. Gomers; E. McKenna; V. Osherson; S. Culler; W. Weigh; S. Pollock; T. Gwyn; S. J. Smith; N. Heston; W. Carrington; J. Gussard; R. Henderson; R. Andrew; R. Hall; J. Lawand; S. Moore; J. Dwyer; T. Tegg; P. Keir; W. Dwyer; P. Wallington; D. Richards; J. Hall. Referee: K. Fitzgerald (Queensland).

QUEENSLAND: A. Haydon; J. Williams; J. Law; V. Farnham; D. Carrington; M. Lynch; S. Sherry; C. Lifford; D. Nixson; R. Moroney; B. Hester; R. McCall; J. Eales; J. Miller; S. Scott. Referee: P. Keir (New South Wales).

WALSLEY: P. Thorburn; E. Evans; S. Gibbs; M. Hall; S. Ford; A. Davies; C. Bridges; M. Griffiths; K. Phillips; P. Tegg; M. Morris; P. Arnold; G. Smith; L. Llewellyn; R. Webster; P. Davies. Referee: B. Kinney (New South Wales).

POLO: (SLO) British Open championships (Crested Polo Club, Oxford); Criccieth Champion Cup (Criccieth); Tidworth tournament (Tidworth).

ROWING: Henley Royal Regatta (Henley).

SHOOTING: Combined Services meeting (Salisbury).

SPEEDWAY: Sunbelt National League: First division: Bradford v Belle Vue (7.30); Second v Coventry (7.30); Chelley Heath v Oxford (7.30); King's Lynn.

SWIMMING: Welsh ASA championships (Cardiff).

TENNIS: Wimbledon championships.

YACHTING: Storm 33 national championships (Plymouth).

TOMORROW

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

COCA-COLA BRITISH LEAGUE: First division: Birmingham Bulls v Glasgow Lions; Nottingham Floods v Leeds Cougars; Manchester Spartans v Blackpool Falcons; Brighton SSP v Northants Storm; London Olympians v Bristol Packers; Thames Valley Chargers v Portsmouth Warriors; London

Rangers v Colchester Senators. Second division: BMC Admirals v Milton Keynes Pioneers; West London Aces v Cardiff Meteor; Redshift Arrows v Stoke Spitfires.

AUSTRALIAN RULES

BRITISH LEAGUE (BARFL): Shield Series v South Coast Rovers; West London Warriors v Northants Storm; Thames Valley Chargers v London Lions; London Hawks; East Midlands Eagles v Sussex Sevens.

OTHER SPORT

EQUESTRIANISM: International dressage (Stockholm).

POLO: (SLO) British Open championships (Crested Polo Club, Oxford); Criccieth Champion Cup (Criccieth); Tidworth tournament (Tidworth).

ROWING: Henley Royal Regatta (Henley).

SHOOTING: Combined Services meeting (Salisbury).

SWIMMING: Welsh ASA championships (Cardiff).

TENNIS: Wimbledon championships.



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GOODYEAR

ATHLETICS

Elliott is still striving to join the elite

From DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT, OSLO

THIS time last year, Peter Elliott could do no wrong. Commonwealth gold medal, world indoor record, unbeaten in 21 races. The buzz was that he would end the season as the Dream Mile winner, European champion and would run faster than Coe, Cram or Overt ever did.

He did none of those things. Illness and bad luck left Britain, as one observer put it, still awaiting its fourth Beatie. Elliott wondered in Frankfurt last weekend whether his European Cup victory there had bestowed him that honour. The answer, as he well knew, was it had not.

Nor will he be Ringo tonight, even if he were to win the Dream Mile a year behind schedule. "People are not going to talk about Oslo if I don't win in Tokyo," Elliott said, thinking ahead to the only assignment that matters to him this year, the world championships. To join Coe, Cram and Overt he needs his first world or Olympic title.

Elliott never was one to deceive himself or others. "I lost one race last year before the Europeans, but the first thing everyone thinks about is what happened there. They don't say: 'You ran a great mile in Rotterdam'."

In contrast to last year, Elliott has been going about his business quietly. No press conferences to announce his race schedule, no targeting of world records. From Frankfurt, he could have chosen Lille or Stockholm, or both, but preferred Rotterdam, the bright lights to stake up his fitness.

"I did something in training this week which I was quite pleased with," he said yesterday.

He did not go into details. Last year, his training times were thrown out for public consumption. "I am not far off the shape I was in for the Commonwealth Games," Enough said.

While Elliott was winning in Auckland, Simon Doyle was making his first impression at international level. Doyle, a raw Australian, ran his best time to finish fourth, but was not within sneezing distance of the Englishman. Now he is sniffing victory here.

Twice in a week, Doyle has beaten the Australian record. Like Elliott, he is having to fight a tradition, in his case Herb Elliott and John Landy. Doyle, aged 24, a four-year younger than Elliott—ran 32.79sec in Helsinki last Thursday, then 31.97sec in Stockholm on Wednesday. In both, he was second to Nouredine Morceli, whose absence here is a pity. Morceli is the one who might have made a dream out of down-to-earth slugging between Yorkshireman and Queenslander.

Doyle has been running seriously for only five years and his new status has forced him to postpone his intended career as a farmer. His running is still in the experimental phase. "I had expected to run as fast this season but not this early," he said. Will he suffer the consequences as Elliott did?

The dream race could be the 10,000 metres because Salvatore Autio, unbeaten over the distance since the Seoul Olympics, races Khalid Shaab, the world cross-country champion and a notable fast finisher. They may come close to Arturo Barrios's world record of 27min 08.23sec.

Offer that is too good to refuse

PARCEL-FORCE GAMES

THE TIMES today offers the chance for two people to win a trip to see one of the highlights of the athletics season, the Worldkase Games in Zurich on August 7. We have teamed up with Parcelforce, sponsors of the IAAF Grand Prix meeting at Crystal Palace next Friday, to present this special opportunity.

The Parcelforce Games is one of the highlights of the British athletics calendar and the competitors are likely to include Carl Lewis, Linford Christie, Leroy Burrell, John Regis, Michael Johnson, Roger Black, Tom McKean, Maurice Oney and Yvonne Murray.

The winner of our competition, with a friend, will fly to Zurich on August 6, the day before the games begin. After spending two nights at the Hotel Adler in Zurich, they will fly home on August 8. The competition is open to readers aged 18 or more and the guest of the winner must also be at least 18.

To enter, study the questions below, write your answers on the entry form and send it (to arrive by Monday July 15) to: Parcelforce competition, Sports Department, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9NN.

The winner will be the sender of the first correct entry drawn from all those received by July 15.

THE QUESTIONS

- In Split last summer, who became the first Briton since Don Finlay in 1938 to take a European championship gold medal in Finlay's event?
- How many times was the men's javelin world record broken last year?
- Who (pictured above) ran the fastest women's one-day sprint double in history at the 1990 Worldkase Zurich grand prix?
- In which two events did England win all three medals at the Commonwealth Games last year?
- Which Briton became the first athlete to record four successive wins in one event in the European Cup with a victory in Frankfurt last weekend?



- Who (pictured above) ran the fastest women's one-day sprint double in history at the 1990 Worldkase Zurich grand prix?

ENTRY FORM	ANSWERS
Name	1
Address	2
City	3
Postcode	4
Telephone	5

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POLO

Gracida leads impressive Tramontana

THE British Open encounter at Amersham, Sussex, yesterday ended in a 9-4 victory for Tramontana against Labegorce (John Watson writes). Labegorce attacked bravely in the first seconds of the duel to open the account with a goal by Hinc, but then the play went Tramontana's way.

Their longstanding two-handicap Mexican pivot, Carlos Gracida, was inclined to dominate the game. He was ably supported by his new No. 2, Adolfo Cambiasso, of Argentina, who, aged 17, already plays off a seven handicap. In the fourth half, Gracida's famous brown pony, Chesney, Gracida led Tramontana to their greatest advantage, 8-2, although the last period was more successful for Labegorce.

TRAMONTANA: 1. A Embiasso (2); 2. A Cambiasso (7); 3. C Gracida (10); Back: A Buchanan (3). LABEGORCE: 1. H Porcedo (1); 2. A Hinc (2); 3. A Cambiasso (2); Back: S Mearns (7).

Patient policy reaping dividends

Michael Stoute, trainer of today's big-race favourite, assesses the main contenders with Michael Seely

There is no shortage of opinions on the Coral-Eclipse Stakes at Sandown today but Michael Stoute, closer than most to the action, refuses to be drawn into the prediction business.

Stoute is responsible for Stagecraft, the heavily-backed favourite for the first important meeting between the generations, and, on the day I visited Freemason Lodge in Newmarket, one of an army of 65 equine athletes circling the paddock at the rear of the stables. Powerful quarters propelled the colt in a rhythmic and aggressive walk along the wood-chip surface against a background of trees.

Although the bustle of the preparation for a busy work morning generated its own tension, the sudden bursts of laughter and the relaxed atmosphere proclaimed the general enjoyment of the late arrival of summer.

Stagecraft's progressive form, coupled with Stoute's outstanding record in top-class races, had seen further sustained support for the stable hope earlier this week. Although the trainer is simmering with excitement about the anticipated great occasion, hard-headed realism tempers optimism with caution.

Sitting in an armchair in his office, Stoute considered the Eclipse. Races which receive advance star billing sometimes prove disappointing, but Stagecraft's principal opponents, in the Groove, Sangamora and Maju, are all recent winners and therefore in peak form.

The graph of Stagecraft's improvement since narrowly winning a maiden at York last October reached a new high at Royal Ascot when Sheikh Mohammed's rising star sprinted to a comfortable three-length victory over seasoned opponents in the Prince of Wales's Stakes.

As always, Stoute kept

any enthusiasm firmly in check when making his precise professional assessments. "That win showed that he's in the top league now. Terimon and Zozana are proven high-class performers, so that was a very good run."

Similarly the trainer makes concise, almost shorthand, comments about the opposition. Concerning in the Groove, David Elsworth's brilliant filly, whose breakthrough powers of acceleration saw her ranked as the top member of her sex in Europe in 1990, he says: "She's an outstanding filly and could be peaking now."

About Maju, John Dunlop's Derby runner-up and subsequent winner of the St James's Palace Stakes: "He looks to be a very progressive horse. He obviously has a superb temperament and has got to be respected. This could be his best trip."

However, Stoute felt the need to say more about Sangamora, the least discussed member of the big four. "He could be underrated. Last season he won the French Derby, beating Epervier Bleu, who went on to finish second in the Arc and was also so impressive at Saint-Cloud recently. Sangamora won the Prix d'Ispehan after an absence of about 11 months and made all his own running over nine furlongs on ground that was a little too quick for him."

Stagecraft's history differs from that of his three principal rivals in that the colt is only realising his full potential in the summer of his fifth year. However, in common with most top-class horses, Stagecraft had given his trainer more than a glimpse of his latent ability at the age of two.

"He wasn't a precocious

horse, so we gave him time to develop," says Stoute. "He got best in his only run at Sandown, because the ground was like a ploughed field and the winter got a run up the rail. But we'd got that important first run into him."

A further setback occurred last season. "He had intermittent lameness in the spring of his three-year-old career. He had been purchased as a rig, and we discovered this was causing the problem. Anthony Stroud, Sheikh Mohammed's racing manager, knew of a Frenchman who could do the necessary operation, which was removing the testicle from his abdomen. We gave him a rest after the surgery, and since then he's never looked back."

The moment which showed the stable's secret weapon was ready for an attack on the big time arrived in the Brigadier Gerard Stakes at Sandown, run over the Eclipse course and distance in May. "I was impressed with him that day. The ground was in his favour but he couldn't have done it any better. We knew that we had an exciting prospect."

Stoute thinks the issue is so finely balanced as to be almost unpredictable. "A race like this does so much good for the sport, but it's going to be tough. If you interpret the form strictly, there is not much between them. At the end of the day, what it's going to boil down to, because hopefully the pacesetter will ensure a truly run race, is which horse gets there in the best shape on the day. That's the trainer's job. We're not in the business of trying to tip winners."



Stage direction: Stoute's back, Basil, is oblivious to all around as the Newmarket trainer sends out instructions to his team of work riders on the Heath

Channon nets the Sandown booty

By MICHAEL SEELY, RACING CORRESPONDENT

MICK Channon, the former England and Southampton footballer, not only stole the training honours at Sandown yesterday but won an expenses-paid trip for two to Hong Kong when landing a 194-1 double with You Know The Rules and Misdemeanours Girl.

Evidently feeling no pain from a deep-rooted corn in his rear foot, You Know The Rules came storming up the hill to give the second-year trainer the most important win of his new career in the Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club Trophy, worth \$41,016 to the winner.

"It was tough and go whether she ran," said the trainer. "As it turned out all right, we're here."

roes, but if it had gone wrong, we would have looked right Charles. It reminds me of football injuries. I played 300 times but I had always waited to be passed fit, I might only have played about 100 times."

Hong Kong day at Sandown, with its three competitive handicaps, invariably produces exciting racing. And yesterday proved no exception as Chris Butler drove You Know The Rules past Pat Eddery and Fire Top inside the last furlong to win by one-and-a-half lengths. Michael Roberts and Operation Wolf, the 5-1 favourite, finished the same distance away third, after looking the likely winners at the distance.

Yesterday's winner had finished his problem before debuting unplaced behind Eurolink

The Lad in the Royal Hunt Cup at Ascot. "It's so deep-rooted, that we can't get at it," the trainer explained. "Luckily, it poured with rain before she was at Goodwood. And it was only because the ground was so good that we ran her here."

Even so, the final decision was only taken after the filly had centred at Upper Lambourne yesterday morning. "She could not have run the night before which she spent with a position on her foot," Channon added.

When the 5lb claiming apprentice Brett Doyle drove Misdemeanours Girl past the post a neck in front of Dream Carrier with The Cuckoo's Nest a short head away.

Trained by Paul Cole as Whatcombe, yesterday's top-weight is owned in partnership by Christopher Wright and Prince Field Salmons, Channon's owner, who bought a half-share earlier in the season.

On an afternoon when five of the winners were fillies, Well Beyond and Saratoga Source made eye-catching winning debuts in the two-year-old races.

July Stakes gets cold shoulder from trainers

THE top two-year-old race at next week's Newmarket July meeting has attracted just four possible contenders. From an anticipated field of 30, the potential field for the group, three Anglo-Irish Television July Stakes was reduced dramatically as yesterday's five-day stage.

Of those that remain, Computer Kid and Showbrook, fourth and fifth in the Coventry Stakes at Royal Ascot, plus Mohammed Moubarak's Made Of Gold, a five-length winner on his debut at Ripon last month, are definite starters.

Wide Ruby, trained by Paul Kelleway, is the only other acceptor for a race which will pay prize-money down to fourth place.

Nick Lees, Newmarket's clerk of the course, said: "I can't understand what trainers want. They can't blame the ground because it is good and we are nearly 80 years of experience."

Richard Hannson, Showbrook's trainer, welcomed news of the low entry. "It's amazing," he said. "I took Showbrook out of the big race at Haydock tomorrow after pondering for a long time. Now it looks as though I did the right thing."

Computer Kid, trained at Middleham by George Moore, has just been sold to race in Italy but is expected to run at Newmarket first. Moore said: "I've kept him going for this race and the plan is to run him. He's in great form."

BEVERLEY

MANDARIN
1.55 So Refined. 2.30 Prince Belfort. 3.00 I'm Special. 3.30 Overpower. 4.00 Shady Leaf. 4.30 Thunder. 5.00 TV Pitch.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM
DRAW: SF, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

1.55 LAIR GATE SELLING STAKES

(2-Y-O: 7f 100y) (18 runners)
1. 000 GARDENERS (5f) M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
2. 001 HOT SET 14.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
3. 002 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
4. 003 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
5. 004 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
6. 005 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
7. 006 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
8. 007 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
9. 008 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
10. 009 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
11. 010 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
12. 011 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
13. 012 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
14. 013 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
15. 014 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
16. 015 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
17. 016 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
18. 017 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5

2.30 RIDING TRADITIONAL BITTER HANDICAP

(3-Y-O: 5f, 100y) (18 runners)
1. 000 GARDENERS (5f) M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
2. 001 HOT SET 14.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
3. 002 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
4. 003 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
5. 004 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
6. 005 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
7. 006 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
8. 007 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
9. 008 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
10. 009 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
11. 010 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
12. 011 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
13. 012 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
14. 013 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
15. 014 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
16. 015 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
17. 016 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
18. 017 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5

3.00 MILLERS MILE (€3,460: 1m 100y) (6)

1. 000 GARDENERS (5f) M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
2. 001 HOT SET 14.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
3. 002 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
4. 003 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
5. 004 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
6. 005 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5

3.30 BEVERLEY HANDICAP

(Amateur: 5f, 100y) (6)
1. 000 GARDENERS (5f) M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
2. 001 HOT SET 14.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
3. 002 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
4. 003 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
5. 004 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
6. 005 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5

4.00 GOULD HANDICAP

(€2,511: 1m 3f 216y) (9)
1. 000 GARDENERS (5f) M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
2. 001 HOT SET 14.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
3. 002 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
4. 003 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
5. 004 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
6. 005 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5

4.30 WOOD LAKE MAIDEN GUARANTEED

(SWEETSTAKES 3-Y-O: 22.07.90) (15)
1. 000 GARDENERS (5f) M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
2. 001 HOT SET 14.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
3. 002 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
4. 003 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
5. 004 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
6. 005 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5

5.00 WESTWOOD HANDICAP

(€3,655: 2m 3f) (7)
1. 000 GARDENERS (5f) M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
2. 001 HOT SET 14.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
3. 002 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
4. 003 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
5. 004 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
6. 005 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: G. Channon, 3 winners from 8 runners; 37.2%
S. J. Taylor, 15 from 34, 43.5%
J. L. Jones, 10 from 25, 40.0%
J. L. Jones, 10 from 25, 40.0%
J. L. Jones, 10 from 25, 40.0%
J. L. Jones, 10 from 25, 40.0%

Racing next week

MONDAY: Leicester, Edinburgh, Windsor, Tring.
TUESDAY: Newcastle, Pontefract, Wetherby.
WEDNESDAY: Newmarket, Kempton Park, Bath, Thirsk.
THURSDAY: Newmarket, Kempton Park, Chesham, Wetherby.
FRIDAY: York, Lingfield Park, Warwick, Chester, Harrington Park.
SATURDAY: York, Lingfield Park, Ayr, Salisbury, Chester, Wetherby.

SANDOWN PARK

Going: good
1. 000 GARDENERS (5f) M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
2. 001 HOT SET 14.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
3. 002 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
4. 003 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
5. 004 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
6. 005 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5

HAYDOCK PARK

Going: good
1. 000 GARDENERS (5f) M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
2. 001 HOT SET 14.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
3. 002 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
4. 003 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
5. 004 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
6. 005 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5

BRIGHTON

1. 000 GARDENERS (5f) M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
2. 001 HOT SET 14.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
3. 002 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
4. 003 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
5. 004 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
6. 005 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5

BETTER CALL WILLIAM HILL

RESULTS
1. 000 GARDENERS (5f) M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
2. 001 HOT SET 14.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
3. 002 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
4. 003 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
5. 004 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
6. 005 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5

ALL RESULTS

0898-168-168
1. 000 GARDENERS (5f) M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
2. 001 HOT SET 14.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
3. 002 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
4. 003 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
5. 004 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5
6. 005 SHADY LEAF 11.1 M W Easley 5-11 M Wood 5

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

4.15 (5f) 1. MIDEANOURN GIRL (B Doyle, 12-1), 2. Heave-A-Ligh (B Doyle, 12-1), 3. Eldest Friend (C Hodgson, 12-1), 4. Pines (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 5. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 6. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 7. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 8. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 9. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 10. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 11. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 12. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 13. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 14. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 15. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 16. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 17. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 18. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 19. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 20. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 21. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 22. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 23. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 24. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 25. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 26. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 27. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 28. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 29. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 30. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 31. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 32. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 33. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 34. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 35. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 36. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 37. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 38. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 39. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 40. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 41. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 42. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 43. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 44. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 45. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 46. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 47. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 48. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 49. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 50. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 51. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 52. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 53. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 54. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 55. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 56. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 57. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 58. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 59. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 60. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 61. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 62. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 63. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 64. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 65. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 66. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 67. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 68. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 69. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 70. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 71. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 72. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 73. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 74. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 75. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 76. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 77. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 78. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 79. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 80. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 81. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 82. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 83. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 84. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 85. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 86. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 87. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 88. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 89. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 90. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 91. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 92. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 93. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 94. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 95. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 96. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 97. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 98. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 99. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 100. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 101. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 102. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 103. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 104. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 105. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 106. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 107. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 108. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 109. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 110. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 111. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 112. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 113. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 114. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 115. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 116. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 117. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 118. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 119. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 120. Damsel (J. L. Jones, 12-1), 121.

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Cricket outcasts may be back in the fold next week

Gatting's Test ban could be lifted if Springboks return

By ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

SOUTH Africa's immediate and unconditional return to Test cricket will receive the backing of the United Kingdom delegates at a potentially historic annual meeting of the International Cricket Council (ICC) at Lord's next week.

It was confirmed yesterday that the English vote will support the racially-united South Africa. It would, of course, have been a great surprise if it had not and the issue will inevitably depend more on the stance adopted by the non-white nations, most notably West Indies. The disparate cultures and politics there might yet demand a more cautious attitude, although it is understood that this week's heads of government meeting in St Kitts has given a provisional green light.

If readmission is agreed, England could host a full series against South Africa in 1994 but a prior visit to the country which has served 21 years in sporting exile is a strong possibility. More contentiously, the England team for such a tour could conceivably include Mike Gatting and others who are

currently serving suspensions for playing in South Africa.

Alan Smith, chief executive of the Test and County Cricket Board and one of three UK delegates to the ICC, said yesterday that he personally believed the five-year bans being served by Gatting and his team should be lifted if South Africa is readmitted to the international fold. He will not find unanimous agreement in the game for such an amnesty.

"There would not seem to be any logical justification for continuing the ban," argues Smith. "But we want to take one step at a time. The issue before us is whether South Africa should come back into the family. Various consequences of that decision will then be discussed."

Smith's view is that unanimity among the full member nations on South Africa's return is desirable though not essential. "It is one of the biggest things to happen in IOC since they left," he said. "It is a sensitive and delicate matter and we do not want any confrontation — but neither do I expect any."

Smith agreed that his Board

felt badly let down by South Africa's clandestine organisation of an unsanctioned tour by English players in 1989.

"We weren't very pleased with them and we told them so. But I am not in the business of harbouring grudges. We have to look forward. We do not have a lot of countries to play against and the return of a country which plays cricket well must be welcomed."

The prospect of an England team visiting South Africa before Christmas was virtually discounted by Smith; likewise a single Test against them in this country next summer. "We have five Tests against Pakistan and an increase in one-day internationals. There simply isn't the space in our programme."

He did not, however, raise any objections to the late addition of South Africa to next spring's World Cup in Australia. To many, this idea would appear to be over-hasty, highly problematical and motivated by nothing more than financial gain, but Australia are certain to pursue it and England will not stand in their way.

Ward shines but Kent disappoint

By IVO TENNANT

MAIDSTONE (first day of three): Kent won toss; Glamorgan, with nine first-innings wickets in hand, are 318 runs behind Kent.

THERE are those who reckon that Trevor Ward is an England batsman in the making, and yesterday he showed just why. His century, very nearly made before lunch, included drives of the kind that make new ball bowlers despair. Kent did not, though, make the most of this auspicious start, finishing with a total of 334.

At lunch, Ward had reached 93 off 113 balls, and this in spite of a slow over. Think of the young Alan Ballman, thumping the ball to all parts, and you have an idea of Ward's strength. Like Ballman his technique is a little loose but his eye is wonderfully good. So, too, is his straight driving, which brought him several of his 17 fours.

There was also a booked six — Taylor was his usual consistent self, rarely catching the eye in making 77 but always collecting runs at a rate that did not make him appear a slacker by comparison. Come early afternoon and Kent were 197 for one, with every prospect of making around 450 by the close.

That they did not was greedy

Lancs go closer to leaders

By GEOFFREY WHEELER

LANCASHIRE moved within two points of Nottinghamshire, the leaders of the Refuge Assurance League, by beating third-placed Somerset by eight wickets at Taunton yesterday in a match brought forward from July 14 because of Lancashire's involvement in the Benson and Hedges Cup final.

Somerset wasted an excellent start and declined from 170 for two in the 34th over to finish at 196 for eight, the wicketful running out of Tavert after he had made 57 from 68 balls beginning the decline.

The total proved nowhere near sufficient to stretch specialists as Lancashire who won with three overs to spare. Mendis (79) and Lloyd (78 not out) added 117 for the second wicket.

Devon Malcolm, not required by England, took three wickets for 79 as Derbyshire bowled out Somerset for 289 at Derby. It was another bad day for the bottom club, Leicestershire, who finished with 116 for four in reply to Northamptonshire's 300 for seven declared. Fordham made a dogged 116 for Northamptonshire after Maguire had caused early problems.



First blood: Smith is congratulated after catching Haynes, the West Indies opener, at Trent Bridge

Salim and Hussain hit a peak

By SIMON WILDE

THE OVAL (first day of three): Essex won toss; Surrey, with nine first-innings wickets in hand, are 325 runs behind Essex.

THERE cannot have been a more elegant or accomplished partnership in the championship this season than that between Salim Malik and Nasser Hussain yesterday. The pair, who came together with Essex in crisis at nine for three, added 314 in five hours to give Surrey

a long and gruelling day in the field. Salim scored 185 not out and Hussain 128. Their stand broke the Essex fourth-wicket record of 298, set by Avery and Horsfall against Worcestershire at Clacton in 1948, and is the highest in first-class cricket this season.

Both Salim and Hussain played quite beautifully. It is hard to imagine either has missed a shot in his life, and it would certainly offend Salim's senses to do so. The only

untimely thing with which they were associated was the point when they were asked to go in. Salim entered in the third over and Hussain in the fifth as Martin Bicknell gave the day an astonishing start with a wicket in each of his first three overs.

Until well after lunch both batted carefully to ensure Essex's recovery. With one exception, Salim never looked anything less than solid but Hussain survived two leg-before appeals from Bicknell in his first

three overs at the crease. Salim's piece of luck came on 26, when he gave a straightforward chance to slip off Bicknell's bat. He was dropped by Greig, the Surrey captain, for whom the only good news yesterday was that he has been awarded a benefit next year.

It was scarcely mid-afternoon before Greig and his men surrendered hope of breaking the partnership, as Salim and Hussain ruthlessly punished anything wayward on the off side. The pair hit 40 fours; Salim 23, Hussain 17. Surrey's cover fieldsmen spent so much time on their stomachs they could have been members of a parachute class.

When 20, Salim reached 1,000 first-class runs in his first season of county cricket. Of his four hundreds, the smallest has been 163. Yesterday he batted for five-and-a-half hours.

Hussain, who has struggled to make a big score this year, must be learning much from batting with the Pakistan Test player. His century was his first in the championship since Essex's visit to the Oval last September. He finally played out to Murphy, who then dismissed the unfortunate Shahid first ball.

Without bowling regally, Surrey — who were without Wagner Youngs, who is treating a back strain — were taught the benefits of pitching the ball up. It was how Bicknell claimed the wickets of Stephenson, Seymour and Prichard in 17 balls, and how Foster came to dismiss low ball. Bicknell, who has been 338 for five, left Surrey to bat eight overs at the end of the day.

Carrick hit high and hard

By JACK BAILEY

SOUTHAMPTON (first day of three): Hampshire won toss; Hampshire have scored 417 for seven wickets against Yorkshire.

HAMPSHIRE, for whom Chris Smith made a century almost inevitably, and James followed the same path — though this was his first since the first match of last season — eventually made good use of winning the toss.

They moved through the hot day at a rate of nearly four runs an over, formed the habit of lofting, the slow left-arm bowling of the persevering Carrick for six — he conceded six of

them in all — and lived through a spell when, thanks to Hardy, they teetered precariously on the brink of failure.

Hardy almost turned the day on its ear when he took the wickets of Gower, Wood and Smith for no runs in the space of six balls. Gower, showing no sign of Thursday's groin strain, had played several cracking pulled fours amid a number of mistimed strokes in his 49 when he was caught at mid-wicket. He and Smith had put on 112 and the bowling was wretched.

With his next ball, Hardy had Wood leg before and, in his next over, Smith was well taken in the gully from a slower ball after hitting five sixes and ten fours in his century.

At 195 for five, Hampshire seemed to have the match in their own hands. They found, in James, just the man for the job. Together first with the solid Aymes, he gradually

set Hampshire back on course. A quick wicket, thanks to Hardy, the evening aid, surprisingly, reaching his century in one ball fewer than Smith's 152.

As for Smith, if he does accept the offer of a post with the Western Australian Cricket Association it will have been a swan song of a season to remember. This was his fifth first-class century and his eleventh score of over 50.

He is the nearest thing to a run machine since Geoffrey Boycott. But Boycott would not, could not have indulged himself as freely. Smith's three sixes off Carrick and two off young Batty were hit with matter-of-fact precision, none landing fewer than ten yards outside the stumps. It was with a six over the top of the pavilion that he went to his hundred, shortly to be followed by his 15,000th run for Hampshire.

Sports that soar with a sheen

But what, people always ask me, is your favourite sport? It is hard to know how to answer this one, but as we crash headlong into one of the biggest sporting weekends of the year, with the Wimbledon finals and the third cricket Test match, it is a time for honesty.

This column does have two favourite sports: ski jumping and synchronised swimming. They show British life at its very best. I believe. As I write, the British Ski Federation continues its journey towards its own Itasca: an artificial ski jump in this country. I have no doubt that by the next century the skies of Britain will be filled with leaping, crash-hatted, ski-dangling youths.

Meanwhile, let us salute Kerry Stacklock, who is, as I am sure you all know, Britain's No. 1 synchro swimmer. She is also, I gather, "the Silken Girl". The subject is one of endless fascination.

"When competing, Kerry and her team-mates slick their hair with gelatine to hold it in place. The result is a rock-solid mass of hair, the condition destroyed, its natural shine deadened... using Silken, the girls are able to restore their hair to its natural gloss and vitality."

Ms Stacklock's name was at one time romantically linked with that of the javelin thrower, Steve Backley, but alas, no longer. Well, a ski jumper and a synchronised swimmer — surely this would be a match made in heaven?

Club's true test

THIS column sends greetings across the Atlantic to Chittenden Cricket Club in New England. Their recent newsletter celebrates joyfully the formation of Mad River Valley Cricket Club.

"We now have an opponent; we can play endless Test series against each other." They also plan matches that follow important historic principles, "challenge games against, say, Twenty-two of Battleboro". This estimable letter, true to the finest, if not the most obvious, traditions in all cricket, concludes resoundingly: "Ladies are invited to join as full-playing members if they wish. Making the teas will not be a gender-based responsibility."

Power of prayer

It is not every day that footballers can claim a bonus, including a free car, for praying. But this is exactly what happened to the Spanish side, Real Oviedo. They were desperate to get into Europe for the next season, but by the time they had played all their matches, they were a place too low. Their only chance of making Europe was if Atlético Madrid won the King's Cup, which is the Spanish knock-out competition, victory in which qualifies a club for the Cup Winners' Cup. An Atlético victory would leave Oviedo stepping up

into the less prestigious UEFA. Accordingly, the director of the club invited the entire team to the great Gothic cathedral in the town. They were asked to pray that Atlético Madrid won the King's Cup. "If they win," the players were told, "you will have bonuses, and the keys to a car in your hand." Their prayers were answered: Atlético won, Oviedo go into the UEFA Cup, and the players are roaring round town in their shiny new cars.

Cricket is a team game, but some members of a side are more equal than others. Best congratulations to David Carroll, for his extraordinary contribution to Fernhill's batting against Ash Manor in a recent under-14s match. Fernhill, a small comprehensive school, managed a total of 134 for five in this 20-over match. There were 17 extras. Four batsmen made nought, another got one, yet another nine. Carroll made 107 not out. "I just had one of those days," he said. What days, I wonder. Does he fancy playing for Tewin Irregulars against the Vauxhall XI (a side that comprises mainly Roman Catholic clergy) on Monday?

Hard to stomach

Enthralling fact: the 13,500 athletes who will stay in the Olympic Village in Barcelona next year will consume, according to projections: veal, pork and sausage, 162 tons; pâté, eight tons; potatoes, 160 tons; pasta, 32 tons; soup, 32,500 litres; confectionery, 65 tons; fruit, 650 tons; low cream, 65,000 litres; milk, 325,000 litres; coffee 3.2 tons. There will be 1,200 staff providing a 24-hour meal service. One million meals will be served in the course of a month. I have absolutely no idea how much booze will be consumed by the press corps throughout the same period, but I am sure the statistics will be similarly inspiring.

Beating a snap

Here is more evidence that the game of the future is cricket; soccer hasn't got a chance in North America. Mark Murphy, an American footballer, played in the World Bowl final for Barcelona as their long snapper (that, on a point of information, is the chap who bumps the ball backwards through his legs when his team either punts or attempts a field goal; an esoteric sort of job). This involved a trip to London, since the final was at Wembley. A further point of information: in the American language, to "bean" a person in baseball is to strike him on the head with the bat. This is totally illegal and provokes massed brawls every time it happens.

Murphy, writing in *Sports Illustrated*, observed: "The homeboys from England are taking on a side from West Indies. I'm learning that the bowler is allowed to bean the batsman at any time, we watch the game with added interest. Time passes more quickly." Perhaps he too would like to play for Tewin Irregulars. I'm sure we could use a long snapper.

GOLF

Woosnam fiddles with the levers

FROM MITCHELL PLATT'S GOLF CORRESPONDENT MONACO

IAN Woosnam does not consider himself to be a machine. Yet there are times when he resembles one, and yesterday was one of them as he sprang from the pack on the Mont Agel course to capture the lead in the Monte Carlo Open.

Woosnam scored 61, the best round so far this week, for a 54-hole total of 194, 13 under par. He leads by three shots from Rodger Davis, of Australia, who shot a 67. Sandy Steen, the halfway leader, scored a 71 for a total of 196, as did his playing partner, Severiano Ballesteros, who, however, is two shots further adrift.

Woosnam flew here in the private plane he recently purchased for £375,000. The first prize of £66,660 will take care of the first one-sixth of his outlay.

Woosnam is a tricky customer to understand, even for those of his rivals who know him well. He appeared mystified with his swing when he concluded the US Open three weeks ago with rounds of 79 and 80. He spoke of being similarly troubled following first rounds of 67 and 66 here.

Woosnam's champion has become a master tease. He knows that in this form there are few who can deny him emulating Nick Faldo's achievement last year of winning both the Masters and the Open in the space of three months. "That would be a dream come true," Woosnam said.

He believes he regained his touch by moving the club a fraction or so from the palm of his hand towards his fingers. "I hit a three-iron at the 8th which went over the green," he said. "But I struck the ball so well that I suddenly felt in control of my swing again."

"It was the first time this week that I felt I could win the tournament. The confidence came flooding back. I'm using a new set of clubs and the grips might be a touch too thick."

Even so, before his change at the 8th, where he had his only dropped shot, the Welshman had gathered three birdies. Woosnam, the machine, went to work on the inward half with six birdies in a 29.

Darren Clarke made six birdies in an outward half of 18, but came back in 38 for a 56.

THIRD ROUND: Leading positions (British unless stated): 184: Woosnam, 67 (61); 187: R Davis (Aus), 66 (62); 188: S Steen (W), 68 (62); 189: S Ballesteros (Sp), 69 (63); 190: J Steen (Sp), 69 (63); 191: S Ballesteros (Sp), 69 (63); 192: S Ballesteros (Sp), 69 (63); 193: S Ballesteros (Sp), 69 (63); 194: S Ballesteros (Sp), 69 (63); 195: S Ballesteros (Sp), 69 (63); 196: S Ballesteros (Sp), 69 (63); 197: S Ballesteros (Sp), 69 (63); 198: S Ballesteros (Sp), 69 (63); 199: S Ballesteros (Sp), 69 (63); 200: S Ballesteros (Sp), 69 (63).

Bill McColl, of the Northenden club in Manchester, finished runner-up in the Wilson club professionals championship at King's Lynn yesterday, but won a title, a trophy, the use of a car for a year, and a trip to Florida. The winner, Brent Upper, the United States champion, was ineligible only for the £5,250 first prize.

Brintan Assurance county championship

Derby v Sussex

DERBY (first day of three): Derbyshire won toss; Derbyshire have scored 417 for seven wickets against Yorkshire.

Derbyshire won the toss and elected to bat first. They were 417 for seven wickets at the close of play.

Derbyshire's total of 417 was made up of 185 for 4 by Salim Malik and 128 not out by Nasser Hussain.

Derbyshire's batting was supported by a strong bowling performance from their bowlers.

Derbyshire's total of 417 was a record for the county in first-class cricket.

Derbyshire's victory was a significant one for the county.

Derbyshire's performance was a testament to their skill and teamwork.

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Hants v Yorks

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Kent v Glamorgan

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Refuge Assurance

Somerset v Lancs

Taunton (first day of three): Somerset won toss; Somerset have scored 417 for seven wickets against Lancashire.

Somerset won the toss and elected to bat first. They were 417 for seven wickets at the close of play.

Somerset's total of 417 was made up of 185 for 4 by Salim Malik and 128 not out by Nasser Hussain.

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Somerset's victory was a significant one for the county.

Somerset's performance was a testament to their skill and teamwork.

Leics v Northants

LEICESTER (first day of three): Leicestershire won toss; Leicestershire have scored 417 for seven wickets against Northamptonshire.

Leicestershire won the toss and elected to bat first. They were 417 for seven wickets at the close of play.

Leicestershire's total of 417 was made up of 185 for 4 by Salim Malik and 128 not out by Nasser Hussain.

Leicestershire's batting was supported by a strong bowling performance from their bowlers.

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TODAY

Third Cornhill Test match

11.0, 90 overs minimum

TRENT BRIDGE: England v West Indies

Brintan Assurance county championship

11.0, 110 overs minimum

DERBY: Derbyshire v Sussex

SOUTHAMPTON: Hampshire v Yorkshire

MAIDSTONE: Kent v Glamorgan

LEICESTER: Leicestershire v Northamptonshire

THE OVAL: Surrey v Essex

TOMORROW

Refuge Assurance League

2.0, 40 overs

DERBY: Derbyshire v Sussex

CHILMSFORD: Essex v Warwickshire

SOUTHAMPTON: Hampshire v Worcestershire (1.00)

MAIDSTONE: Kent v Glamorgan

Time for a change at the top

HERE IN Cowes, where the only tangible remains of Peter de Savary's latest America's Cup campaign are being shelved and where the latest to put their faith in his assurances are rethinking their futures, the sorrow over the apparent death of Britain's 1992 America's Cup challenge is almost palpable.

For some of us who have been involved in trying to create an environment where Britain could mount a serious challenge for the trophy that 140 years ago was presented and so promptly lost here, the sorrow has not been accompanied by surprise. The pattern is familiar: a high-profile announcement followed shortly by a complete reversal.

What is important now, before the challenge is lost irrevocably, is for de Savary to

Harold Cadmore, skipper of Britain's 1987 challenger for the America's Cup, manager of Britain's winning team in the 1989 Admiral's Cup, and now a yachting consultant, on the vacuum left by Peter de Savary.

honour the latest of his public pledges to step aside completely from the British America's Cup scene. If this happens, it is possible, even at this late stage, that funding might be secured from another source. A pre-condition is that de Savary is not involved. His highly personalised method of operating makes it difficult for other corporations and groups to work with him, and his penchant for publicity would overshadow other backers, be they private or corporate.

If the challenge was picked up on the basis of a lower-budget, one-stop campaign for the 1992 America's Cup and maintained through to the following event, Britain would be then one of the countries vying to win. Given continuity of funding, our sailors would have a sustained opportunity and motivation to compete internationally, our designers could be supported with professional management, and a well-organised programme would put Britain on an equal footing with the best of our competitors.

It is important that what de Savary did — show interest in challenging, secure publicity, and then not proceed — does not happen again. This happened in 1985 and would have left Britain without a challenge for 1987 had it not been for the late Sir Ian Easton's belief that it was "inconceivable that Britain should not challenge", and to Graham Walker emerging to provide the resources to underwrite the funding of the resulting White Crusader.

The 1989 non-challenge involving the interesting but irrelevant fuller Blue Arrow and much of de Savary's hype should be seen for what it was — a good publicity stunt but gravely damaging to serious America's Cup participation.

Not the least of the harm done was to the two "her groups" who might have challenged for 1992, both hampered in the quest for funding by de Savary's appetite for publicity. I am convinced from discussion with people of substance that had de Savary stood aside early, or not been on the stage at all, Britain would now have a viable challenge.

Peter de Savary's credibility in this field is now so reduced it is imperative for Britain's America's Cup prospects that he can no longer enjoy the mantle of "Britain's America's Cup Challenger". It is a mantle which could still be given to other individuals of wealth or companies with global ambitions, who share the dream of the America's Cup returning to these shores.

Sabatini holds balance of power

By ANDREW LONGMORE
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

A RIVALRY that began six years ago in New Jersey reaches its climax this afternoon on the centre court at Wimbledon. Steffi Graf and Gabriela Sabatini have played each other 29 times in all corners of the world, including the Seoul Olympics where Germany won the gold, and almost every surface.

Yet you have to go back to the quarter-finals of the 1987 Championships to find their one and only meeting on a grass court. No prizes for guessing the winner. Graf was starting her era of domination then, had just won her first grand slam title at the French Open and was frighteningly combative.

The following year, she swept all before her to achieve the grand slam, beating Sabatini twice along the way. But the balance of power has shifted over the past 18 months. Sabatini has blossomed, Graf wilted and, this afternoon, the result will depend on Graf's ability to block out five consecutive defeats by her most persistent foe.

The worst of those was at the Lipton International in Florida in March. Graf won the first set 6-0 with a flurry of huge forehands, but Sabatini waited patiently for the storm to blow over and broke Graf's fragile spirit to take the next two sets, 7-6, 6-1. Such ghosts are hard to exorcise. Sabatini has won all their last four tie-breaks.

"Both play good tennis."

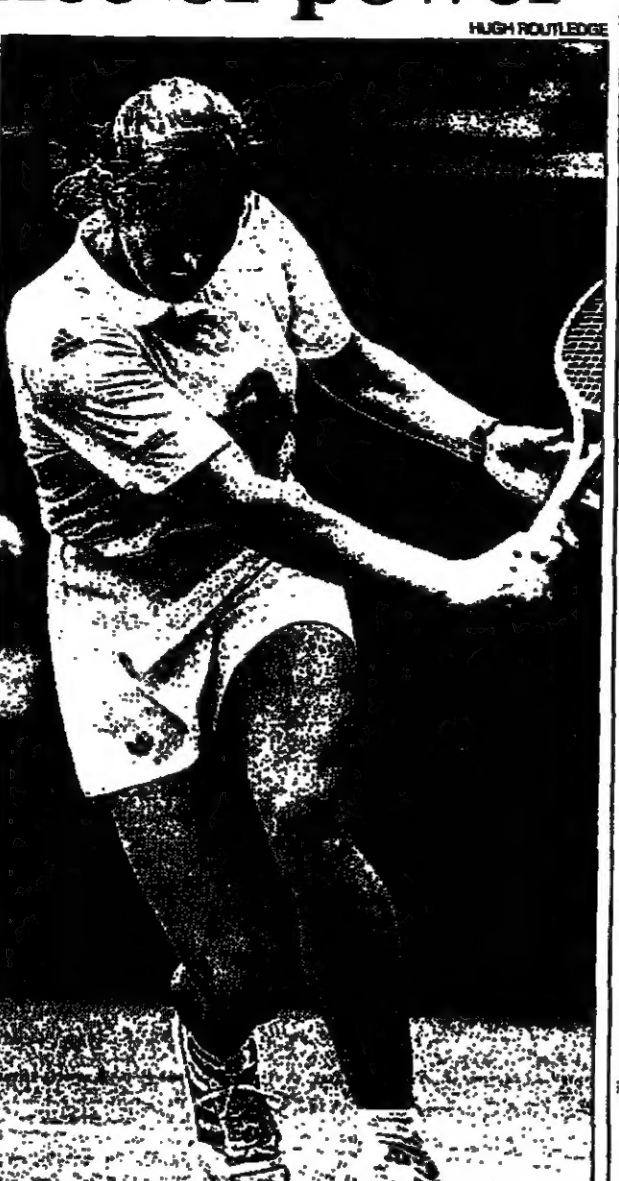
Whoever is mentally the stronger will win," Carlos Kirmayr, Sabatini's coach, said. "All the responsibility to win is with Graf." Klaus Hofmann, captain of the German Federation Cup team, sees it differently.

"Gabriela is very confident and she knows at last she has become No. 1. She is much fitter than she was and is a good tactician, but it will be a typically tough match," he said.

Neither showed their true form in the semi-finals against opponents who could not tease out their best. Neither have dropped a set in getting to the final. Graf has responded remarkably to her humiliation by Arantxa Sanchez Vicario in Paris a month ago and, perhaps as a result of playing mixed doubles with Henri Leconte, has been getting to the net more often and winning points when she gets there.

Sabatini, in contrast, has been reluctant to exploit her natural ability at the net. The sight of Graf might prompt greater aggression, as it did in the final of the US Open last year. The Argentinian won her first grand slam title that day; she could win her first Wimbledon title today.

A Scottish businessman appealed to the All England Club to extend its publicity warning spectators against buying tickets from touts, after he was refused entry to Wimbledon because he had bought two seats on the black market (see Goodbyes writes).



Job to do: Graf today faces her most persistent foe

Farewell for man of the turf

By ALIX RAMSAY

WHEN the last ball has been struck at Wimbledon tomorrow, Jim Thorn will turn his back on the All England Club after nine years and ten championships as head groundsman. "I thought it would be easy to walk out of the gate and say goodbye, but it is harder than I thought. It is an enormous wrench," he said.

Thorn treats each of the 32 grass courts as his personal property. He has tended them and, at the end of each championship, he has torn them up and started from scratch to prepare a new surface for next year. "I get a masochistic joy out of seeing the terrible mess it makes of centre court," he said.

You would imagine such a man would be a follower of tennis but not Thorn. "I'm a golf addict. If I were a tennis fan, I might lose sight of what I'm doing here."

So what does retirement hold? A spot of gardening? "My wife does all of that," he said. "We don't even have a lawn, just flowers and vegetables. I love grass but that's the last thing I want to do when I get home."

Men's singles

Winner: \$240,000
Runner-up: \$120,000
Holder: S Edberg (Swe)
Semi-finals
M Stich (Ger) bt S Edberg (Swe), 6-4, 7-6, 7-6
B Becker (Ger) bt D Wheaton (US), 6-4, 7-6, 7-6

Men's doubles

Winners: \$98,350 per pair
Runners-up: \$49,175 per pair
Holder: R Leach (US) and J Pugh (US)
Semi-finals
J Franz (Arg) and L Luetke (Mex) bt W Ferreira (AUS) and P Norval (SA), 6-2, 6-4, 7-6
S F Fitzgerald (AUS) and A Jarryd (AUS) bt G Connell (AUS) and G Michabata (Can), 6-2, 7-6, 7-6

Women's doubles

Winners: \$25,080 per pair
Runners-up: \$12,540 per pair
Holder: J Novotna (Cze) and H Sukova (Cze)
Third round
A Sanchez Vicario (Sp) and H Sukova (Cze) bt J Capriati (US) and M Paz (Arg), 6-2, 6-1

Quarter-finals

M J Fernandez and Z L Garrison (US) bt K Jordan and L M McNeill (US), 6-4, 7-6, 6-2

Mixed doubles

Winners: \$41,720 per pair
Runners-up: \$20,860 per pair
Holder: Z Garrison (US) and R Leach (US)
Third round
G Michabata and J Metherington (Can) bt L Leconte (Fr) and S Graf (Ger), 6-2, 6-4
C J Van Rensburg (SA) bt J Stomerik and C P de Villiers (Neth), 6-2, 6-4
J Fitzgerald and P Smylie (AUS) bt S Suk and H Sukova (Cze), 6-3, 6-4

Men's singles (35 and over)

Quarter-finals: M Lloyd (GB) bt S R Smith (US), 6-4, 7-6; T Gullikson (US) bt G Alexander (AUS), 6-4, 6-2; P Fleming (US) bt A A Mew (GB), 6-4, 6-2; P Fleming (US) bt R L Stedman (US), 6-4, 6-2

Men's doubles (35 and over)

Quarter-finals: P Stoll and T Stoll (US) bt K R Ross and P Stoll (AUS), 6-2, 6-3

Women's doubles (35 and over)

Semi-finals: R Connell and M P Hale (US) bt D E Dalton (AUS) and J C Russell (US), 6-4, 6-2; W M Tumball (AUS) and S V Wade (US) bt P Durr (Fr) and S F Wade (AUS), 6-2, 6-2

Boys' singles

Quarter-finals: G Rasmussen (Can) bt S Gossner (GB), 7-5, 6-2; P Kibben (AUS) bt R Rabe (AUS), 7-5, 6-2; T Gullikson (US) bt J Spence (US), 6-2, 6-4; M Joyce (US) bt J Spence (US), 6-4, 6-2

Boys' doubles

Quarter-finals: J L De Jager (SA) and A Andrich (GB) bt J J Smith and D Mew (GB), 6-4, 6-2; J Holmes and P Kibben (AUS) bt T Gossner and M Rasmussen (Can), 6-2, 6-4; J Spence and M Rasmussen (Can) bt J Holmes and P Kibben (AUS), 6-4, 6-2; J Spence and M Rasmussen (Can) bt J Holmes and P Kibben (AUS), 6-4, 6-2

Girls' singles

Quarter-finals: K Gossner (AUS) bt Z Maltova (Cze), 6-4, 6-2; E Maltova (Cze) bt K Gossner (AUS), 6-4, 6-2; S Rabe (AUS) bt J Spence (US), 6-4, 6-2; J Spence (US) bt S Rabe (AUS), 6-4, 6-2

Girls' doubles

Quarter-finals: C Bentley (AUS) and L Zolt (US) bt J Rabe and G Stoll (AUS), 6-2, 6-4; J Spence and M Rasmussen (Can) bt C Bentley and L Zolt (US), 6-2, 6-4; J Spence and M Rasmussen (Can) bt C Bentley and L Zolt (US), 6-2, 6-4

Centenary marked by sponsor

The 100th tennis match between Oxford and Cambridge universities will take place at Queen's Club next Thursday and Friday with the weekend news that a sponsorship over five years of £25,000 is to be made by SmithKline Beecham, the pharmaceutical company (David Miller writes).

The club, in recognition of the century and the origins of the match at the famous Fulham court, is giving its facilities free. Much of the background negotiation for the event came from the initiative of Larry Beecham, an American who is chairman of the Oxford lawn tennis club.

"This match has had several decades of obscurity due to holding it in May at university sports grounds," Beecham said. "In the future, it will be played the week after Wimbledon when the interest in the game is at its height. Inter-collegiate competition in America is one of the main streams in to world-class lawn tennis, and it is hoped that with this fixture riding on the impetus of the championships, it will stimulate the 18-23 age group."

Rowing Grobler orders are obeyed in full

By MIKE ROSEWELL
ROWING CORRESPONDENT

STEVIE Redgrave and Matthew Pinsent clearly do as they are told by their German coach, Jürgen Grobler. Under instructions from the Silver Goblets Barrier recorders to go for the record on the Fawley record yesterday, they did so.

A strong following wind made conditions very fast, and should it persist, the national squad Prize Philip four are under Grobler's instructions to go for the record on the Fawley record yesterday, they did so.

Other crews took advantage of the conditions to enter the record books. Imperial College's Henley Prize eight responded to the attention devoted to Bristol University this year by beating Bristol's one-day-old record to Fawley and the full course record.

Winchester's Visitors Four, stroked by the junior medal-winner, Richard Manners, beat the Fawley record in spite of a "decent" off the start. Winchester now confront the "selected" Goldie crew with four Blues on board.

School crews in the Princess Elizabeth produced both records and upsets. King's Canterbury trailed to the "selected" Shrewsbury to the Henley occasion and beat the fabled Pangbourne. St Joseph's Prep are the only American crew left in the semi-finals. Eton performing within themselves to eliminate St Paul's, Concord, and almost casually beating the old Fawley record in the process.

Spectators and commentators rest assured that the fast performances at Henley were not "drug-assisted". At a meeting yesterday, Peter Coni, the regatta chairman, announced that random drug tests are to be carried out at Henley this year for the first time.

The tests are being conducted by trained Sports Council personnel, and the chairman added, they are "strict and confidential". He did not expect any positive results.

Sloane Rangers have deserted Henley's regatta

Mrs Betty Kenward has finally been put out to grass after holding down for an extravagant number of years the job of writing "Jennifer's Diary" for Harper's and Queen. I am considering applying for this vacant post. The 1991 CV looks good — polo in May, Ascot in June, Henley in July — all it needs now is for my father to throw a belated coming-out dance and, *voilà*, I shall be doing The Season.

Except that I doubt that Mrs Kenward ever left Henley, drove across London, came out the other side at the Brentwood Leisure Centre and surrounded by men shouting "Burn him, burn him," threw her wedding-cake hat into the ring and cheered Nigel Benn on to a comprehensive victory over Kid Milo.

I state that I am in fact the only person in the world to have attended both the Henley Royal Regatta and the Brentwood fight; the only person to have lunched on guacamole with people who worship Michael Watson (not that Diana and Michael are so different, both typical English heroes — good-looking, quietly spoken, not quite at the top of their professions).

Of the two events, preferred the boxing. But the fault is not with Henley, it is with me. I am not nice enough for Henley. Henley is the Queen Mother and David Niven and Julie Andrews and Henry Blofeld, it is uncomplicated and serene and charming, it is people one does not know asking one to have lunch with them, it is almost numbingly pleasant, it is too good for me. Get me down to Brentwood, amid the spit lips, the snarling and the shouting.

I suppose that Mrs Kenward was wont to write about Henley as a social event but it is far less overbearingly snobbish than either polo or Royal Ascot. In fact, it is not at all what I had expected. I had feared that I should spend the day tittering past chunks of boisterous public schoolboy shouting "oik, oik, oik" and pointing at my shoes, or being elbowed from the champagne bar by chunks of Fulham Road estate agentdom taking the day off from selling bijou wall

cabinets in SW10 and hoping to be thought upper-middle class.

But these images came from the 1980s, where people acted out The Sloane Ranger Handbook and wore in their blazer labels the white rose of the Peterborough; the Eighties, when people earned money and spent it on becoming a cardboard cut-out push person; the Eighties, when people bought a jumbo of Dom Perignon, 50 striped shirts from Hilditch and Key and a Porsche while waiting for the Nikkei Dow to start trading. Those days are over. The synthetic Henley-gor is no more. At Henley in 1991, people are not trying to be ladies and gentlemen, to be English, to be traditional — they just are those things.

I kept plunging, like Eric Morecambe, through marquee curtains, looking for alterations, for some oddities, but everywhere was the same as everywhere else: water, sun, wet grass, picnics, niceness. Rupert Very-Big-Thick the Rovers' lack of fit but haggard, Rupert Old-Blue met up with the members of the 1950 Isis crew: Sophie Sandwich-Maker looked harried but happy; Rupert Sixth-Former, unmistakably an Etonian with his floppy wings of hair and his John Wayne-downward stride, pulled on a Silk Cut as if it were a Senior Service and got drunk on three pints of lager; Georgina Swizzlestick, dressed as a milkmaid, yelped at him occasionally then subsided into a sulkily respectful silence.

Henley is unimprovable. No goodwill is required to see that it is beautiful or to have a nice time there; if I found it too static, too tranquil, that is my fault, for its charm is that it does not strain after any of its effects. If a tourist wants to see England being unself-consciously itself then Henley is the place to go.

Or is Brentwood the place to go? The Elizabethan timbered boathouse or the leisure centre? Pimm's or lager? The restrained holler for the Alma Mater or the atavistic cock-fighter's roar? Herbert Johnson panama or Joe Bloggs baseball cap? Which of these is the more definitive of the word "English"?

Thames Cup

Holder: Nottinghamshire County RA
Third round
Nottinghamshire County RA bt Trowbridge Town, 2-1; Trowbridge Town bt Trowbridge Town, 2-1; Trowbridge Town bt Trowbridge Town, 2-1

Queen Mother Cup

Holder: Denmark Rosentor, Denmark
First round
Upper Thames A bt Upper Thames B, 1-0; Upper Thames A bt Upper Thames B, 1-0; Upper Thames A bt Upper Thames B, 1-0

Double Sculls

Holder: A Rudkin and A Kitchener, Trowbridge Town
Second round
D Marshall (AUS) and A Ball (AUS) bt T Spence and C Williams (Trowbridge Town), 2-1; T Spence and C Williams (Trowbridge Town) bt T Spence and C Williams (Trowbridge Town), 2-1

Silver Goblets

Holder: K Sinsinger and H Bauer, Austria
Second round
S Redgrave and M Pinsent (AUS) bt M and C Richey (AUS), 2-1; M and C Richey (AUS) bt M and C Richey (AUS), 2-1

Britannia Cup

Holder: University Coll, Gwynedd
Third round
Nottinghamshire County RA bt Trowbridge Town, 2-1; Trowbridge Town bt Trowbridge Town, 2-1; Trowbridge Town bt Trowbridge Town, 2-1

Visitors Cup

Holder: University of London
Second round
Winchester College bt Univ of York, 2-1; Winchester College bt Univ of York, 2-1; Winchester College bt Univ of York, 2-1

Henley Prize

Holder: Imperial Coll, London
Third round
Imperial Coll, London bt Reading Univ, 2-1; Imperial Coll, London bt Reading Univ, 2-1; Imperial Coll, London bt Reading Univ, 2-1

Diamond Sculls

Holder: E Verdun, New Zealand
Second round
E Verdun (New Zealand) bt M T Otto (Thames), 2-1; E Verdun (New Zealand) bt M T Otto (Thames), 2-1; E Verdun (New Zealand) bt M T Otto (Thames), 2-1

Weyfold Cup

Holder: London
Third round
Nottinghamshire County RA bt Trowbridge Town, 2-1; Trowbridge Town bt Trowbridge Town, 2-1; Trowbridge Town bt Trowbridge Town, 2-1

Diamond Sculls

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First round
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Gornall at risk

Becker discovers a new opponent awaiting him in the Wimbledon final as Edberg suffers the greatest shock of the championships

Stich dispatches the master of serve and volley

By ANDREW LONGMORE
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

AFTER three years, the dance has ended, the tryst has been broken and, in the absence of Stefan Edberg, Boris Becker has a new partner for his annual dance on the final Sunday of the championships. Both at least should know the steps. Becker's 6-4, 7-6, 7-5 defeat of the unseeded David Wheaton was predictable enough: the victory of his fellow German Davis Cup player, Michael Stich, over the defending champion Stefan Edberg was a much greater shock than Navratilova's defeat earlier in the week. The German Nos. 1 and 2 will take over the centre court tomorrow, the first all-German grand slam final in history.

In defeat, Edberg can at least take comfort from some peculiar statistics. He did not lose his service in any of the four sets and only conceded 23 points in 24 service games. Yet, even for the acknowledged master of the serve and volley, the fact that he lost three consecutive tie-breaks to a player much less experienced at such levels of the game will haunt the champion for many months to come. At least his humour remained as intact as his service. "It was a pity they ever invented the tie-breaker," he said. "But if they hadn't, I think we would still be playing the second set." Ironically, the ultimate power of the tie-break came the day after the death of its instigator, Jimmy van Allen.

Edberg, however, had only himself to blame for the loss of the third set tie-break which



Results, page 39

turned the course of the match. At 4-2 up and with a break as precious as a puddle in the desert, Edberg let a cross-court forehand by Stich land on the baseline to level the score at 4-4, and when the German had a point to take a two sets to one lead, the Swede completely missed a smash losing the tie break 5-7 after two hours and 14 minutes.

"You can't afford to do that when the match is so tight," Edberg said. "I just didn't watch the ball, but the problem was that I lost the timing on my returns and I played three or four bad points. There was not much between us." The proverbial cigarette paper, in fact.

Yet, as the defending champion strode through the first set much as he had the previous five rounds, there was little sign of the impending danger. He broke the No. 6 seed in the fifth game of the match — the only break, as it turned out — and reduced Stich to clapping his racket in acknowledgement. Both Stich and the packed Centre Court felt that a lesson was about to be delivered, but, to his eternal credit, Stich stuck to his guns and matched the champion serve-for-serve, volley-for-volley.

Rallies were rarely longer than two strokes as both men produced consistently ex-

cellent service games. In such a bombardment, there seemed to be only one winner; Edberg had been in similar situations countless times before, while Stich was playing only his second grand slam semi-final, just a month after his first. The German, though, is clearly a very fast learner, as his impressive academic record indicates.

Adopting a caution that is not apparent in his tennis, he did not rush into a professional career until he had finished his school exams and secured a place at university. Only then, with something to fall back on, did he venture onto the circuit. Barely two years ago, he was still ranked in the top 100. Even at the start of the year, he was only just under the top 50, but he has won more matches than anyone else on the tour this year and his sharpness was soon evident.

When he got his nose in front he did not let up and, when Edberg exerted enormous pressure in the fifth game of the fourth set, it seemed that the German must fold. Instead, he kept finding wonderful length on his second serve, out-serve the Swede by eight aces to one and held firm to add to Edberg's increasing frustration.

With the confidence of the second and third set tie-breaks behind him, it was Stich and not Edberg who must have relished the prospect of a third. Having saved four break points in that crucial fifth game, both players seemed to know that a third tie-break was inevitable. When the moment came, however, Stich broke with a backhand service return to lead 2-1 and then rubbed in his superiority with an ace to 4-1 and a forehand pass to 5-1.

When he produced another backhand service return using his full 6ft 4in to arrow the ball back down the line, Edberg knew that the game was up and.

"It might not hit me until tonight that I have lost," Edberg said, "but I gave it away, that's all there is to it."



Heavy-handed: Stich strikes one of the fierce serves that troubled Edberg yesterday

Swift success for German who had a go

MICHAEL Stich, whose name properly pronounced sounds like a sneeze, is the contradiction of contemporary professional sport. He has not been thinking exclusively of hitting a small ball ever since he first fitted a knife and fork, nor has he been fashioned by some coach on a permanently revolving wheel of tennis sculpture. He was a good sportsman who decided, at 18, to give it a go.

Behind you, he won't have the crowds breaking down the All England Club gates to get in to tomorrow's final. Stich, 6ft 4in and with a service as resonant and regular as Big Ben, is the Nineties version of Fred Stolle, the nicest man to lose three consecutive Wimbledon singles finals since Von Cramm did the same. Fred, who had a fine off-court sense of humour, would not object to the view that Stich is equally stammering as he stands on the service line. He wore down Stefan Edberg with as much variety as the dripping of a leaking roof: he kept coming at him.

A Yugoslav colleague, who has seen 40 years of Wimbledon, expressed the view that if yesterday's match was modern tennis, then it was time for him to retire.

It was ironic that the first defending grand slam champion to lose without surrendering his service should do so the day following the death of the octogenarian Jimmy van Allen, American architect of the tie-break. The pragmatic van Allen, who until a year ago could still be seen strolling at Wimbledon in his familiar straw hat, had in vain spent a lifetime, since his tennis playing days at Cambridge University, advocating the Van Allen Simplified Scoring System, in which every game is scored in tie-break fashion.

A rueful Edberg, no more or less emotional than had he just won the trophy for the third time, said afterwards that it was a good thing the tie break had been invented "or we'd still be out there playing the second set."

There is an element of German profundity about the 22-year-old Stich, whose father is an economist. The son's favourite reading is Nadeau's *Die Entdeckung der Langsamkeit* (The Discovery of Slowness), for what it teaches him about himself. Yet he was a conventional schoolboy until he was 17, qualifying for university, playing football, and, for his reflective qualities, golf.

His extraordinary progress in three-and-a-half years from a ranking in 1987 of 795 to his present seventh has been, he says, almost wholly mental. "I was regularly playing the top players, and usually losing," he said afterwards, trying to come to terms with his second victory in successive days over a grand slam champion. "So I began to ask myself, why? Nadeau was clearly getting to him."

Edberg yesterday, all too clearly, was not. Edberg gave the opinion — in that friendly Swedish monotone that is like the doctor reassuringly telling you not to worry about the backache — that he lost the match more than Stich won it, which, coming from the pragmatic Edberg, carries not a trace of immodesty or disparagement of the opponent. He is just telling the truth. "I lost the timing on my service return, as simple as that. It was my match in the first two sets."

Edberg's own service, some degree the slower, never functioned well, his second serve often being the more effective. There were long spells of silent disbelief from the centre court as the match began to drift away from him. As he tentatively held on for 4-4 in the fourth set after a double fault, a middle-aged, female, British voice, one of those who has come to regard the London-based Swede as an adopted Englishman, called out "Come on, Stefan."

LTA tries Florida style

THE Lawn Tennis Association is on the verge of enlisting the help of Nick Bollettieri in the search for a British Wimbledon champion (Alix Ramsay writes).

His tennis academy in Florida has already produced a string of leading players,

including Andre Agassi and Monica Seles, and he is keen to open a similar school in this country. David Lloyd has offered Bollettieri the chance to join forces with his clubs, but it seems that the American would prefer to work with the LTA.

Resolute Richards responds in the face of adversity

By ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

TRENT BRIDGE (second day of five): West Indies, with five first-innings wickets in hand, are 38 runs behind England

THE genial smile which has been Vivian Richards's constant touring companion this summer finally left his face at five minutes past two yesterday afternoon. The Trent Bridge scoreboard read 45 for three, England were rampant and Richards was obliged to confront the prospect of losing his unbeaten record as West Indies captain in his very last series.

Stony-faced and single-minded, Richards accorded the dilemma his most serious attention. Coming from this man, even at the age of 39 and in his 119th Test match, this is a considerable compliment, and for more than three hours Richards threatened an innings which would settle this match.

He had not made a century in 11 Tests, the longest gap since he made his first in only his second game, 17 years ago. He wanted this one badly and it would have numbered among his best, not for the power or quality of strokeplay but for the graphic intensity of his determination that this match, and with it almost

inevitably the series, should not slip away.

When, at 80, after a stand of 121 with the splendidly combative Logie, the ambition died, his dignity failed him too. Bowled off his pads by Illingworth, he declined to walk. Inexorably, he also declined to look at the umpires who, curiously, were both signalling him out. If his inference was that Russell had dislodged the ball himself, replays were proving otherwise even as Richards was reluctantly retreating to a storm of booing, a terribly sad end to what was so nearly his glorious day.

That such an innings was demanded of Richards further indicated the relative frailty of the batting around him. This is not an inadequate put four when judged by the standards of others; it is just that, as with other aspects of this West Indian side, it is not quite what it was.

England's progress through the top order owed as much to the embryonic dependability of DeFreitas as it did to the effectiveness of Lawrence. Their lofty position, however, had first been earned by the trench warfare which continued yesterday morning, ultimately adding 72 runs for

the last two wickets and gaining the psychological high ground of 300. Lawrence, affectionately adopted by another full house, played a significant role here, too.

Robin Smith supervised the operation and although he ran out of partners, for the second consecutive Test innings, both Illingworth and Lawrence had supported him well. Illingworth fell to the third over with the new ball, turning away from a short one from Ambrose and gloving it to second slip.

Lawrence was dropped once, by his mortified Gloucestershire new-ball partner, Walsh. Smith was also put down, by Richards at slip. These were misses to infuriate the fielding side who, at 228 for eight, had been in such control, and when they did get to bat, they lost both openers in the nine remaining overs before lunch.

DeFreitas set things up with his miserly opening spell but it was Lawrence, slowly conquering his painful early nerves, who made the breach. Haynes was acrobatically caught, one-handed at short-leg, by Smith's vindication of his dedicated, if sometimes bizarre practice routines.

Simmons, never at ease, prodded suspiciously forward to the first ball of the next over

and squirted it on to his stumps. Illingworth, thus, became the eleventh man in history, and the first for 31 years, to take a wicket with his first ball in Test cricket. A pity, then, that for the rest of the day he pitched repeatedly well outside leg stump, a tactic which is at best unattractive and at worst a mockery of the spin bowler's art.

He may say it was worth it for the wicket of Richards but to bowl in this fashion earlier, at a time when Hooper and Richardson had gone and West Indies were under the cosh, was illogically negative.

Richards and Logie were thus helped in their first objective of entrenchment, so essential after Richardson had played on to a swinging yorker from Lawrence as he aimed to drive. When the bad ball came, neither man was afraid to dispatch it. Logie hooked Lawrence for six; Richards later straight-drove him to the sight-screen. Both, at times, were also discomfited by the burly pace bowler.

After Richards's lonely exit, the third time in the series he has threatened but not delivered a century, the day's honours were about even but England knew they must strike early today if this tantalising prize is not to be put beyond them.



Dream start: Illingworth celebrates a wicket with his first delivery in Test cricket

A test of nerves that even bowlers have to pass

IT IS not generally realised, I think, that bowlers suffer from nerves, just as batsmen do. Batsmen, but never bowlers, are known for being nervous starters; some say they play better for having butterflies in their stomachs when waiting to go in.

It was not until sharing a room with Brian Statham on an MCC tour of Australia that I saw how bowlers can be similarly affected. Statham and Peter Loader were inseparable companions, to be compared with Graham Gooch

and John Emburey when they toured together. When, four days before the first Test at Brisbane in 1958-9, Loader got flu, priority was given to removing Statham from the risk of infection. Hence the manager, Freddie Brown's request that until the match was over Statham should move in with The Times.

Of all the cricketers I have known, none was more easy-going than Statham. He could have put on a blindfold and still bowled a side out, he was so naturally accurate; he took

everything in his stride. Yet when the first morning of the Test match broke, he was unmistakably agitated. "Aye," he said, "It's always t' same until match gets started."

If the most relaxed of all first bowlers felt like that, it is no wonder that David Lawrence should have been so obviously keyed up yesterday. Statham never had to worry about rhythm; Lawrence does. I don't recall Statham bowling a

no-ball; Lawrence bowls any number. Here, though, Statham had the advantage of playing under the infinitely more satisfactory back-foot law. Lawrence's first ball yesterday, an off-side long hop, was cut savagely for four by Haynes; his second was a shoulder-high full toss. It was to his credit that he came back from that as well as he did.

Frank Tyson, believed by Sir Donald Bradman to be as fast a bowler as he has seen, was another to whom rhythm did not come naturally. When

things clicked, as they did for three glorious months in Australia in 1954-5, Tyson was like lightning. Arthur Morris, an Australian opening batsman at the time, compared the difference, in speed, between batting against Tyson at one end and Statham at the other to batting against Statham at one end and Trevor Bailey at the other. And Statham was waspishly fast.

The fastest deliveries I have seen this year — in Australia, West Indies and England — were by Waqar Younis at the

Oval in May. Yesterday afternoon, for an over or two, Lawrence was pretty nearly as quick. But Richards and Logie weathered the storm, and we were left to watch Illingworth being allowed, presumably encouraged, to bowl as no self-respecting left-arm spinner ever did or ever should. One last thought: Tyson made the best of his strength and wholeheartedness only after Len Hutton had advised him to take ten yards off his run-up. Until then he ran as far as Lawrence does now.

England won toss

ENGLAND: First Innings

	Runs	Wkts	4s	6s	Min	Balls
G A Gooch bow b Marshall	—	—	—	—	10	110
Offered no shot to ball cutting back from off	—	—	—	—	—	—
M A Atherton bow b Ambrose	32	—	2	1	123	80
Hit forward as ball angled in	—	—	—	—	—	—
G A Hick o Dujon b Ambrose	43	—	4	1	155	113
Gloved lifting ball down leg side	—	—	—	—	—	—
A J Lamb bow b Ambrose	13	—	1	—	30	21
Shuts on defensive back-foot shot	—	—	—	—	—	—
M R Ramprakash b Ambrose	13	—	—	—	87	84
Hit round clipping, slower yorker	—	—	—	—	—	—
R A Smith not out	84	—	5	1	162	180
R C Russell o Logie b Allen	3	—	—	—	32	32
Turned ball wide of square leg	—	—	—	—	—	—
D R Pringle o sub (D Ambrose) b Allen	0	—	—	—	9	6
Picked ball towards square leg	—	—	—	—	—	—
P A J DeFreitas b Walsh	8	—	1	—	12	12
Played across ball moving to front	—	—	—	—	—	—
R K Illingworth o Hooper b Ambrose	18	—	2	—	61	48
Gloved louncher to second slip	—	—	—	—	—	—
D V Lawrence o Allen b Marshall	4	—	—	—	51	24
Lunge to catch cover	—	—	—	—	—	—
Extras (nb 17, w 1, nb 21)	30	—	—	—	—	—
Total (103.6 overs, 454mins)	300	—	—	—	—	—

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-108 (Gooch 64, 2-113 (Hick 40, 3-138 (Hick 10, 4-185 (Hick 40), 5-192 (Smith 2), 6-212 (Smith 18), 7-217 (Smith 28), 8-228 (Smith 28), 9-270 (Smith 40).
BOWLING: Ambrose 36-7-74-5 (nb 10 w 1) (7-3-39, 8-2-29, 9-1-12, 10-2-20, 11-1-25, 12-1-25, 13-1-25, 14-1-25, 15-1-25, 16-1-25, 17-1-25, 18-1-25, 19-1-25, 20-1-25, 21-1-25, 22-1-25, 23-1-25, 24-1-25, 25-1-25, 26-1-25, 27-1-25, 28-1-25, 29-1-25, 30-1-25).
INTERMEDIATE SCORES: 50: 66min, 14.5 overs; 100: 115min, 27.4 overs; Lunch: 108-0 (Gooch 63, Atherton 31), 28 overs; 150: 200min, 45.2 overs; Tea: 175-3 (Hick 35, Ramprakash 12, 36 overs; 200: 220min, 57.1 overs; 250: 363min, 82.5 overs; Close: 280-4 (Smith 40, Illingworth 18) in 100 overs. Second day: new ball at 270-5, 91.4 overs; 300: 453min, 103.4 overs. Innings closed: 12:03pm.

WEST INDIES: First Innings

	Runs	Wkts	4s	6s	Min	Balls
P V Simmons b Illingworth	12	—	2	—	41	35
Shuts between bat and pad	—	—	—	—	—	—
D L Haynes o Smith b Lawrence	18	—	3	—	38	25
Bat-pad going forward to short leg	—	—	—	—	—	—
R B Richardson b Lawrence	43	—	8	—	95	76
Hit round inswinging yorker	—	—	—	—	—	—
C L Hooper o Russell b DeFreitas	11	—	1	—	25	22
Low catch off defensive shot	—	—	—	—	—	—
V A Richards b Illingworth	80	—	2	—	208	158
Charge down pitch, scrambling back	—	—	—	—	—	—
A L Logie not out	72	—	1	—	161	188
JP J C Dujon not out	3	—	—	—	37	30
Extras (nb 2 to 7, nb 14)	22	—	—	—	—	—
Total (56.4 overs, 318mins)	220	—	—	—	—	—

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-32 (Simmons 12, 2-32 (Richardson 0), 3-45 (Richardson 2, 4-118 (Richards 18), 5-238 (Logie 32).
BOWLING: DeFreitas 20-7-37-1 (4-27-0, 6-4-18, 8-1-20, 20-2-0); Lawrence 17-2-57-2 (nb 5) (4-1-25, 6-0-32, 7-1-30, 8-1-30, 9-1-30, 10-1-30, 11-1-30, 12-1-30, 13-1-30, 14-1-30, 15-1-30, 16-1-30, 17-1-30, 18-1-30, 19-1-30, 20-1-30, 21-1-30, 22-1-30, 23-1-30, 24-1-30, 25-1-30, 26-1-30, 27-1-30, 28-1-30, 29-1-30, 30-1-30).
INTERMEDIATE SCORES: Lunch: 108-0 (Gooch 63, Atherton 31), 28 overs; 150: 200min, 45.2 overs; Tea: 175-3 (Hick 35, Ramprakash 12, 36 overs; 200: 220min, 57.1 overs; 250: 363min, 82.5 overs; Close: 280-4 (Smith 40, Illingworth 18) in 100 overs. Second day: new ball at 270-5, 91.4 overs; 300: 453min, 103.4 overs. Innings closed: 12:03pm.
